

No. R-128. House concurrent resolution designating January 20, 2022, as Homelessness Awareness Day in Vermont.

(H.C.R.85)

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Waterbury and Pugh of South Burlington

Whereas, the homeless are our neighbors and community members: parents, children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and

Whereas, the 2021 Point-in-Time Count report found that 2,231 adults and 360 children in Vermont were without secure housing, and

Whereas, on an evening in January 2022, 1,665 homeless adults and 485 children were housed in hotels through the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program, and additional households were staying in emergency shelters, or domestic violence shelters, or living outdoors, and

Whereas, COVID-19 has put homeless and precariously housed Vermonters at greater risk and made the previously hidden extent of housing instability visible, and

Whereas, the General Assembly has appropriated \$144 million for investment in affordable housing, which will result in the creation of homes for households currently precariously housed, and

Whereas, the State of Vermont has joined the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's House America initiative and has pledged to use public resources to address homelessness, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commends the efforts of public and nonprofit organizations to restore a dignified quality of life to homeless Vermonters and designates January 20, 2022, as Homelessness Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness.