

**No. R-305. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps on winning both a U.S. Forest Service Culture of Inclusion Award and The Corps Network's recognition for the Health Care Share program.**

(H.C.R.245)

Offered by: Representatives Gardner of Richmond, Belaski of Windsor, Bock of Chester, Brumsted of Shelburne, Buckholz of Hartford, Canfield of Fair Haven, Christensen of Weathersfield, Christie of Hartford, Conlon of Cornwall, Connor of Fairfield, Conquest of Newbury, Dunn of Essex, Forguites of Springfield, Gannon of Wilmington, Giambatista of Essex, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Houghton of Essex, Howard of Rutland City, Joseph of North Hero, Krowinski of Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lippert of Hinesburg, Long of Newfane, Macaig of Williston, Murphy of Fairfax, Partridge of Windham, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Scheu of Middlebury, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sheldon of Middlebury, Squirrell of Underhill, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Wood of Waterbury, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) is dedicated to “teaching young people personal responsibility through meaningful work that connects us to the land, community, and one another,” and

Whereas, this mission is implemented through projects conducted throughout Vermont and at the VYCC farm and restored-barn headquarters in Richmond, and

Whereas, during the past three decades, VYCC has involved over 6,000 Vermonters from 15 through 24 years of age in activities that are educationally enriching and enhance the State's natural resources and workforce, and

Whereas, in 2017, VYCC won two special accolades reflective of the organization's outstanding performance, and

Whereas, the VYCC's Conservation Spike Crew for American Sign Language Youth received the U.S. Forest Service's Culture of Inclusion Award to honor this especially worthy initiative, and

Whereas, separately, VYCC's Health Care Share (HCS) was one of four programs that The Corps Network, the national organization of Youth Corps, recently honored, and

Whereas, HCS, a community-based public health project, connects Vermont families unable to afford or access nutritious food, with a weekly or monthly share of farm-fresh food, and

Whereas, VYCC farm crews grow, pack, and deliver the food shares to hospitals, family practices, and community clinics for distribution to recipients who have distinct needs, and

Whereas, The Corps Network's President and Chief Executive Officer, Mary Ellen Sprenkel, praised VYCC for its innovation and leadership demonstrated through HCS, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps on winning a U.S. Forest Service Culture of Inclusion Award and on The Corps Network's recognition of the Health Care Share program, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the VYCC in Richmond.