

No. R-345. House concurrent resolution congratulating Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington on winning the Vermont Grocers' Association Retailer of the Year award.

(H.C.R.248)

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Audette of South Burlington, Geier of South Burlington and Head of South Burlington

Whereas, the Vermont Grocers' Association (VGA) is a broadly based statewide organization representing approximately 670 stores in all aspects of retail food sales, and

Whereas, annually, the VGA honors a member store that exemplifies the highest standards in the business of food sales as the retailer of the year, and

Whereas, in 1986, the Lesser family started, and continues to operate, Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington, and, in 2010, it is Vermont's largest natural foods market, and

Whereas, this market places great priority on developing and maintaining a long-term workforce and empowering its staff to become invested in the store, and

Whereas, Healthy Living is a community-service-oriented retailer, and regularly donates food to nonprofit organizations, including, in 2009, providing meals to at-risk youth who use Spectrum Youth Services' Pearl Street drop-in center in Burlington, and

Whereas, this store recently became the first business to partner with Common Roots, a new South Burlington nonprofit organization that is

working toward the purchase of a 143-acre farm that will serve as an innovative educational and food resource, and

Whereas, Healthy Living recently established the South Burlington Farmers' Market, and it quickly expanded to feature over 40 local farms and food producers, and

Whereas, Healthy Living is a truly innovative and successful business that has been most deservedly selected as the VGA Retailer of the Year, and the award will be presented to the winner in Montpelier on February 18, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly is delighted to congratulate Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington on being named the Vermont Grocers' Association Retailer of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Katy Lesser, owner of the Healthy Living Natural Foods Market in South Burlington.