

No. R-78. House concurrent resolution congratulating Lions Club International's District 45 on its 60th anniversary.

(H.C.R.59)

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Walz of Barre City, Bancroft of Westford, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Condon of Colchester, Connor of Fairfield, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Dame of Essex, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Eastman of Orwell, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Feltus of Lyndon, Fields of Bennington, Fiske of Enosburgh, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Komline of Dorset, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lenex of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, Masland of Thetford, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Myers of Essex, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Parent of St. Albans City, Pearce of Richford, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Purvis of Colchester, Quimby of Concord, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Sibilica of Dover, Smith of New Haven, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Till of Jericho, Trieber of Rockingham, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, in 1917, a small group of Chicago businessmen created a service organization for the purpose of giving back to their community and adopted the name Lions Club, and the organization soon became known as Lions Club International (LCI), with the motto "We Serve," and

Whereas, the first Vermont Lions Club was established in Burlington in 1924 and was assigned to Lions District 33, also encompassing New Hampshire and western Massachusetts, and

Whereas, after Helen Keller addressed the 1925 LCI convention, the organization adopted assisting the blind and persons with a visual impairment, as well as the deaf and persons who are hard of hearing, as its primary service mission, and

Whereas, in 1945, LCI realigned its jurisdictional map and transferred the Vermont Lions Clubs to a new District 44 with New Hampshire, and

Whereas, a momentous occasion occurred on June 5, 1955, when at a LCI District Convention, the Vermont Lions were reorganized into their own LCI District 45, and

Whereas, the District 45 Lions Clubs support the LCI Foundation's activities, including working to eradicate measles worldwide, providing glasses to Special Olympic athletes, facilitating international disaster relief, and supporting other activities that include the Sight First program and youth programs through the formation of Leo Clubs, and

Whereas, the Vermont Lions also sponsor many statewide programs that currently include the Lions Twin State Soccer Match, the Vermont Eye Bank at Porter Medical Center, and the Green Mountain Lions Camp for deaf and hard of hearing children, and

Whereas, individual Vermont Lions Clubs also conduct locally originated service projects including providing audiology equipment for schools, financing corrective surgeries, offering student scholarships, and purchasing eyeglasses and hearing aids for needy Vermonters, and

Whereas, in 2015, LCI consists of 46,000 clubs and 1.3 million members worldwide, including the proud Lions of District 45, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Lions Club International's District 45 on its 60th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Lions Club International's District 45.