

No. R-152. House concurrent resolution recognizing the 3–4–50 chronic disease resource as a valuable preventative health care guide.

(H.C.R.118)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, according to the Vermont Department of Health (the Department), three behaviors: lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, and tobacco use, contribute to four chronic diseases: Type 2 diabetes, lung disease, heart disease and stroke, and cancer, which cause 50 percent of the deaths in Vermont, and

Whereas, the Department also reports that 36 percent of adults are either overweight or obese, 14 percent of high schoolers are in one of these two categories, and over three-quarters of the younger group are not sufficiently physically active, and

Whereas, tobacco use is the number one preventable cause, which in Vermont leads to approximately 1,000 smoking-related deaths each year and \$348 million in medical expenses, and

Whereas, Vermonters Taking Action Against Cancer (VTAAC) represents Vermont's cancer community, including the Department of Health, the statewide cancer coalition, Vermont hospitals, cancer survivors, the American Cancer Society, and other nonprofit organizations that speak with one voice about reducing cancer risk, detecting cancer earlier, creating better access to quality cancer treatment, and improving the quality of life for cancer survivors, and

Whereas, the tenets of 3–4–50 can help VTAAC and Vermont achieve these prevention goals, and

Whereas, according to the most recent data from the National Center for Health Statistics, cancer is the leading cause of death in Vermont, a status that cancer shared with heart disease from the 1960s until 2007, and

Whereas, according to the American Cancer Society's most recent tally, annually, approximately 4,000 Vermonters are diagnosed with cancer and over 1,400 die of the disease, and

Whereas, the Department has documented that chronic disease deeply impacts quality of life for Vermonters, and the estimated medical costs in Vermont related to cancer and other chronic diseases are roughly \$2 billion, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the value of the 3–4–50 chronic disease resource as a preventative health care tool, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Office of the American Cancer Society and to VTAAC.