

**No. R-238. House concurrent resolution designating January 15, 2020 as Homelessness Awareness Day at the State House.**

(H.C.R.197)

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 they deserve our compassion, and

Whereas, the 2019 Point-In-Time Count report found that 1,089 Vermonters were without secure housing, 23 percent of whom were children, and

Whereas, the 2019 Housing Opportunity Grant Program report documented an average shelter stay of 52 days, the longest in more than 18 years, and

Whereas, the Out of Reach 2019 report found that Vermont's housing wage is \$22.78 an hour, the wage needed to afford a two-bedroom apartment, and

Whereas, the Vermont Constitution provides that "government is...instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community," and following these principles, the General Assembly is striving to alleviate and end homelessness in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commends the efforts of its public and private agencies to restore quality of life and housing to the homeless and designates January 15, 2020 as Homelessness Awareness Day at the State House, 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.