

No. R-297. House concurrent resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

(H.C.R.231)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was founded in 1975, and it has evolved during the past half century into the premier organization solely dedicated to serving state and territorial legislators and legislative staff, and

Whereas, this new organization, which was created through the merger of the National Legislative Conference, the National Society of State Legislators, and the National Conference of State Legislative Leaders, coordinates the provision of national representational and support services for state legislatures, state legislators, and state legislative staff, and augments the crucial role they play in our democracy, and

Whereas, NCSL is a bipartisan organization with three objectives: to advance the effectiveness, independence, and integrity of state legislatures; to foster interstate communication and cooperation; and to ensure that states have a strong and cohesive voice in the federal system, and

Whereas, organizational committees, consisting of state legislators, carefully craft and adopt bipartisan positions to inform the U.S. Congress, the federal executive branch, and the public at large of state legislators' public policy concerns; and, from the legislative staff perspective, specialty sections focusing on fiscal policies, information technology, legislative libraries, legal and research activities, and security matters support legislative staff nationwide; and, in these endeavors, Vermont legislators and legislative staff have been honored to serve in leadership roles, and

Whereas, our nation's state legislatures are America's laboratories of democracy and have continually shown that they are the governmental bodies best suited to tackling emerging challenges, and

Whereas, these special representative institutions are where persons from varied backgrounds and representing different communities can come together and find common ground, and

Whereas, NCSL facilitates the exchange of ideas, provides critical research and information, and encourages a rigorous review of the complex issues confronting our communities, states, and nation, and it strives to strengthen the bonds between America's state legislatures and the international community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the 50th anniversary of the National Conference of State Legislatures, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the National Conference of State Legislatures.