

No. R-356. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Carving Studio & Sculpture Center on its 25th anniversary.

(H.C.R.260)

Offered by: Representatives Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Gallivan of Chittenden, Helm of Fair Haven, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Stevens of Shoreham, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Flory, French, and Mullin

Whereas, the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center (CSSC), an artistic institution of cultural, economic, international, and historical importance, has a special role in the West Rutland community, and

Whereas, the mission of the CSSC is “to be an inspiration for three-dimensional artists and art lovers alike,” and

Whereas, Boston-based sculptor B. Amore established the CSSC in 1987 at the site of the Vermont Marble Company (VMC) in Proctor, and

Whereas, in 1989, at the invitation of Stanley Gawet, the owner of the former VMC company store in West Rutland, the CSSC relocated, and CSSC students and supporters renovated the building, and

Whereas, in 1999, in cooperation with the Rutland County Community Land Trust, the CSSC opened a storefront gallery on Marble Street, and

Whereas, in 2002, the CSSC purchased its main building and metals shops, including 5.5 acres of land, and

Whereas, most recently, in 2009, CSSC acquired the former VMC copy shop, enabling the center to develop year-round programs, and

Whereas, the CSSC conducts artistic residencies and internships to teach the carving and sculpture crafts, including international cooperative projects with arts organizations in China, Kenya, and Peru, and

Whereas, exhibitions are held at CSSC, and works of CSSC artisans are being displayed on the grounds of the Vermont Arts Council in Montpelier, and

Whereas, the relationship between the CSSC and West Rutland has resulted in the Marble Street Park project, a Vermont Bicentennial commemorative monument at Depot Park honoring quarry workers, a stone bench at the town hall, the Marble Heritage Wall on the CSSC grounds, and the establishment of instructional programs for West Rutland High School students, and

Whereas, under the outstanding leadership of CSSC Executive Director Carol Driscoll, the CSSC has engaged in collaborative projects with State, federal, and private organizations that have lasting local and regional benefits, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Carving Studio & Sculpture Center on its 25th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Carving Studio & Sculpture Center in West Rutland.