

No. R-196. Senate concurrent resolution honoring those who assumed summer 2023 flood recovery leadership roles in Montpelier and Barre City.

(S.C.R.8)

By Senators Cummings, Perchlik, and Watson,

By Representatives Anthony of Barre City, Casey of Montpelier, McCann of Montpelier, and Williams of Barre City,

Whereas, on July 10 and 11, 2023, the cities of Montpelier and Barre experienced historically severe flooding, and

Whereas, in each city, the responses to this natural disaster were immediate and innovative, establishing effective collaborative partnerships between nonprofit organizations, foundations, and numerous volunteers, and

Whereas, in the City of Montpelier, three individuals—Katie Trautz, the Executive Director of Montpelier Alive, a nonprofit downtown support organization; Alec Ellsworth, the Montpelier Parks and Trees Director; and Peter Walke, the Efficiency Vermont Managing Director and former Montpelier Alive Board member who has disaster response experience—rapidly created an amazing leadership team that oversaw nearly 4,000 supportive volunteers, and the team formed a Flood Response Hub located in downtown Montpelier, which also served several neighboring communities, and

Whereas, a special element of the Hub's activities was the contribution of the Montpelier Youth Conservation Corps under the direction of Alec Ellsworth, with participation from young Vermonters Ella Thomas, Mayla Landis-Marinello, Finley Torrens-Martin, Abdul Wahab Majboor, Ryaz Rahman, Cadence Tyler, Cole Saunders, Nicholas Robertson, Joseph Ferris, Ethan Borland, Jasper Turner, Lena Donofrio, Ben Wetherell, Anna Blackburn, Charlie Watt, Leila Faulstich-Hon, and James Marino, and

Whereas, in Barre City, the Rainbow Bridge Community Center formed a Rainbow Response Team that collected essential supplies for flood-ravaged residents and businesses, held an art auction to raise monies for relief assistance, and formed the Rainbow Relief Fund to finance flood assistance and future climate change support efforts in Barre City and throughout central Vermont, and

Whereas, residents and leaders of many community organizations in Barre City formed the Barre Up project to address the flood crisis and its victims, and

Whereas, the Barre Community Relief Fund was an important monetary resource for supporting the impacted residents of Barre City, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors those who assumed summer 2023 flood recovery leadership roles in Montpelier and Barre City, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each organization and individual listed in this resolution.