

No. R-459. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Robert Swartz on being named the 2012 Northeast Kingdom Chamber Citizen of the Year.

(S.C.R.44)

By Senators Kitchel and Benning,

By Representatives Crawford of Burke, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Reis of St. Johnsbury and Toll of Danville.

Whereas, the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce proudly presents its annual Citizen of the Year award “to a Northeast Kingdom resident who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and extensive community involvement beyond the candidate’s normal occupation,” and

Whereas, the 2012 winner of this accolade is Robert Swartz, who for 27 years was a faculty member at St. Johnsbury Academy, taught English, assisted in the establishment of the academy’s English as a second language program and its international club, and was a leader in the creation of a technical writing curriculum, and

Whereas, since 1997, he has served as the education resource coordinator for the Northeastern Vermont Area Health Education Center, and

Whereas, during his more than four decades of residence in the Northeast Kingdom, Bob Swartz has been associated with many civic and community institutions, including the Danville school board; Green Mountain United Way; North Congregational Church, where he has served as moderator, deacon, executive council member, and founding member of its archives committee; the Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital, where he has served as a corporator; the Osher Lifelong Learning Lecture Series; and several St. Johnsbury town committees, especially those focused on design and planning, and

Whereas, he chaired the Northern Counties Health Care Board as it decided to merge with Caledonia Home Health Care, and

Whereas, above all of these praiseworthy endeavors, Bob Swartz is perhaps most closely associated with the Catamount Arts Center, where his dedication and leadership have been critical to the organization's growth, and

Whereas, Bob Swartz presided over the center's board during the organization's move to a building on Eastern Avenue in St. Johnsbury and during the subsequent capital fundraising campaign to properly outfit and support this new arts facility, and

Whereas, 16 of his fellow Catamount Arts Center board members enthusiastically endorsed the nomination of Bob Swartz for the 2012 Citizen of the Year Award, a recommendation with which the award's selection committee concurred, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Robert Swartz on being named the 2012 Northeast Kingdom Chamber Citizen of the Year, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Bob Swartz in St. Johnsbury.