

# State of Vermont

## House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

### Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 280

House concurrent resolution designating March 25, 2010, as Afterschool Program Day at the state house

Offered by: Representatives Mrowicki of Putney, Andrews of Rutland City, Bohi of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Davis of Washington, Donahue of Northfield, Edwards of Brattleboro, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, O'Brien of Richmond, Orr of Charlotte, Pugh of South Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Smith of Mendon, Waite-Simpson of Essex and Wizowaty of Burlington

Whereas, in the state of Vermont, before-school, afterschool, and summer programs keep more than 20,000 children engaged in the hours outside the school day with innovative learning experiences and positive youth development opportunities, and

Whereas, studies have found that children who attend high-quality afterschool programs report good relations with friends, healthy emotional adjustment, stronger conflict resolution skills, and better grades and behavior in school, and

Whereas, Vermont's afterschool programs keep children safe and in structured, stimulating, and productive programs during the time of day that juvenile crime hits its peak and when youths are at greater risk of being involved in crime and substance abuse, and

Whereas, afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, and

Whereas, the Afterschool Alliance reports that for most families there is an "after school gap" of 15–25 hours per week when parents are still at work, and quality afterschool programs help sustain Vermont's working parents' productivity, and

Whereas, according to the JC Penney Afterschool Fund, 92 percent of Vermont parents are satisfied with their children's afterschool program, and the America After 3pm survey found high support among Vermont adults for post-school day organized youth programs, and

Whereas, among the Vermont Afterschool programs are: Healthy Choices and Math can be Fun (Newark Street School); Pillows for Haiti and Community Questing Adventures (Putney Central School); Journaling and Reading Club (Enosburg); Tech Club and Self Defense Class (Vergennes); Slimy and Scaly Class and Dance Troupe (East Haven); World Drumming (Alburgh Community Educational Center); Core Support classes in science, math, and Spanish (Winooski High School); math and reading tutoring (South Royalton School); swimming lessons (Rutland); fencing, rowing, and homework help (Burlington High School); and other options include: 4H programs, the Iron Chef competition, school garden projects, skiing and snowshoeing, music programs, theatre projects, community service, painting and pottery, math clubs, chess clubs, literacy programs, and book clubs, and

Whereas, 21st Century Community Learning Center afterschool programs in Vermont employ over 1,700 paid staff and create over 290 school-community partnerships, and they provide programming for students in schools and communities where at least 40 percent of the student population qualifies for free or reduced-price meals, and

Whereas, afterschool directors, advocates, partners, and students are gathered today, March 25, 2010, in Montpelier to celebrate these programs' success and promote the importance of their continuance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 25, 2010, as Afterschool Program 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 Partnership for Afterschool Excellence.