

No. R-491. House concurrent resolution honoring the Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy for its important work.

(H.C.R.412)

Offered by: Representative McCormack of Burlington

Whereas, economic growth, as the term is broadly used, means an increase in the production and consumption of goods and services, and

Whereas, economic growth occurs when there is an increase in human population or per capita consumption, or both, and

Whereas, a key indicator of economic growth is an increase in the gross domestic product, and

Whereas, the economies of Vermont, the nation, and the world grow as an integrated whole consisting of agricultural, extractive, manufacturing, and services sector activities all requiring natural resources, and

Whereas, economic growth occurs in a finite and depletable biophysical context, and

Whereas, many leading scientists and economists have recognized the need to modernize the present economic paradigm to reconcile the imbalance of our rate of consumption of resources and the rate of pollution of ecosystems with the rate of replenishment of natural resources and the earth's capacity to absorb pollution, and

Whereas, a steady state economy is an economy consisting of at most a mildly fluctuating population and per capita consumption, and it represents a viable local, national, and global economic model, and

Whereas, the long-term stability of a steady state economy requires its establishment at a size small enough to avoid the breaching of ecological and economic capacity, especially during supply shocks such as droughts and energy shortages, and

Whereas, a steady state economy fosters economic development and an increase in human welfare through strategic changes in the relative prominence of economic sectors, specific techniques, such as renewable energy usage, and an emphasis on social goals other than material production and consumption, and

Whereas, the mission of the Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy is to promote an economic development model that respects the ecological sensitivity of the planet and to achieve broad public support for this objective, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy for its important work, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy.