

NO. R-113. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Springfield Cosmos Division II championship boys' basketball team.

(H.C.R.76)

Offered by: Representatives Martin of Springfield, Emmons of Springfield, Pellett of Chester and Shand of Weathersfield

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, Springfield High School had waited nearly half a century for a boys' basketball championship, having last brought home the sport's top prize in 1960, and

Whereas, the precision regular season play of the 2008–2009 squad led the Cosmos' supporters to hope that in 2009 their hometown school would celebrate the glory of winning the Division II boys' basketball championship, and

Whereas, prepared to play their best when it truly counted, the Cosmos earned the right to play in the Division II season's ultimate boys' basketball game at the Barre Auditorium against the equally well prepared Vergennes Union High School Commodores, and

Whereas, when the game's midpoint arrived, Springfield's single point deficit posed a challenge the Cosmos would need to surmount as soon as play resumed, and

Whereas, when the second half commenced, the newly energized Springfield team unleashed an offensive effort that overwhelmed its opponent, and

Whereas, by the start of the final quarter, the Cosmos team was the owner of a 40–28 lead, and, at the final buzzer, it was the jubilant Springfield players who celebrated a stunning come-from-behind 59–31 victory, and

Whereas, each Cosmos basketball player, including Derek Graham, Ethan McAllister, Brandon Boyle, Tyler Albee, Ryan Brady, Billy Wheeler, Anthony Dana, Derek Otis, Grant White, Tim Wallace, and Keith Cook, can take pride in his contribution to this historic victory and the fantastic 2008–2009 18–6 season, and

Whereas, Coach Lester “Pete” Peck and assistant coaches Michael Hatt, Brian Raponotti, and Cole Lewis proved to be great teachers and advisors to this talented group of young athletes, and

Whereas, the expertise of athletic trainer Matt Howland proved invaluable throughout the season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Springfield Cosmos Division II championship boys’ basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Lester Peck at Springfield High School.