

No. R-203. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs 2009 Division II girls' championship basketball team.

(H.C.R.138)

Offered by: Representatives Wilson of Manchester, Canfield of Fair Haven, Donaghy of Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Hube of Londonderry, Komline of Dorset and Malcolm of Pawlet

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, the second-seeded Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs girls' basketball team played a steady stream of nearly flawless games this past season as it confidently defeated each opponent and earned the right to play the first-seeded Lamoille Union High School Lancers in the 2009 Division II championship contest at the Barre Auditorium, and

Whereas, a win against the Lancers would give Burr and Burton a rare perfect season, and the pressure on the Bulldogs to succeed was apparent, and

Whereas, with the game tied at 14-all in the midst of the second quarter, the Bulldogs ignited a scoring spree that enabled them to leave the court at halftime ahead 24-16, and

Whereas, after the Lancers had narrowed the Bulldogs' lead to six points, the Bulldogs started a new round of precision offensive plays and increased their scoring margin to 16 as they were now ahead 36-20, and

Whereas, the Bulldogs were quickly reminded of the Lancers' first-seed tournament rank as Lamoille soon trailed by only five points, and with 5:26 remaining, there was sufficient time for a reversal of the good fortune Burr and Burton had enjoyed all season, and

Whereas, recognizing the potential of losing their now narrowing championship game lead, the Bulldogs' offense assumed a more energetic stance, and Burr and Burton's defense assisted mightily as it permitted only seven Lancer points during the game's concluding four minutes, and

Whereas, when the game's final second had passed, the 2009 Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs were triumphant as they had won the game 51–43, clinched the 2009 Division II championship title, and completed a perfect 2008–2009 campaign of 24 consecutive victories, and

Whereas, all the Bulldogs, including Sarah Shehadi, Michaela Madden, Nina Shehadi, Colleen Walsh, Sawyer DeVries, Kelsey Kelleher, Jenna Hoffman, Amelia Morrissey, Abby Marsh, Tyler Johnson, Logan Cavanaugh, and Lauren Charnow, were delighted to have been a member of this special team, and

Whereas, no doubt equally excited was coach Jeff Houghton, who was continuing the path his brother Steve Houghton blazed when he coached the Burr and Burton girls' basketball teams to state championships in 1983 and 1986, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs 2009 Division II girls' basketball championship team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jeff Houghton at Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester.