

No. R-21. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2010–2011 NewBrook Elementary School Vermont State Spelling Bee championship team.

(H.C.R.9)

Offered by: Representatives Marek of Newfane, Obuchowski of Rockingham and Partridge of Windham

Whereas, spelling is a subject some elementary school students dread while others aim to become dedicated lexicographers, and

Whereas, the nonprofit E.W. Scripps Company annually sponsors a national spelling competition consisting of both local or, as in Vermont, state spelling bees and a subsequently held Scripps National Spelling Bee that takes place near Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, at the NewBrook Elementary School in Newfane, a team of eager students—Jessie Stockwell, Jennifer Chamberlin, William Jagiello, Caity McNulty, Caleb Thibault, and Nina Singleton-Spencer—were selected for the state competition, and

Whereas, working under the direction of teacher-coach Joyce VanPamelen, each student devoted in excess of 50 hours to learning and mastering the spelling of over 600 words, and

Whereas, at the 2010 Vermont State Spelling Bee, despite being eight points behind and in fourth place for much of the competition, the NewBrook spellers persevered, and

Whereas, they spelled every other word correctly in the later rounds of the 15-word event, and

Whereas, their spelling endurance and stamina were rewarded when NewBrook tied for first place when a contestant from Sharon Elementary School misspelled that school's final word, and

Whereas, immediately thereafter, the final NewBrook word "arbitrated" was announced, and the NewBrook student recited its spelling to letter perfection, and

Whereas, the NewBrook team was thrilled to be declared the state champion and, at a special school assembly, each team member was praised as a Most Valuable Player, and the practice assistance of classmates Jessica Madore, Emma Urbaska, Emma Bourne, Sarah Young, Ethan Waterman, Patrick Meyer, Rachel Borgesen, and Mariah Matyas was gratefully acknowledged, and

Whereas, one of the NewBrook team members will be selected to represent the school at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 2011, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2010–2011 NewBrook Elementary School Vermont State Spelling Bee championship team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Joyce Van Pamelan at the NewBrook Elementary School in Newfane.