

No. R-136. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Winooski High School Spartans Division III championship boys' basketball team.

(H.C.R.119)

Offered by: Representatives Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski and Masland of Thetford

Whereas, for nearly a quarter of a century, Winooski High School Spartans boys' basketball teams have tried to win a state championship, and

Whereas, the highly skilled and talented 2011 Spartans approached their games with a fresh perspective, earning the third seed in Division III playoff competition, and

Whereas, they proceeded to defeat each opponent whose mission was to end Winooski's quest for a berth in the championship game, and the team was well prepared for 2011's ultimate contest played at the Barre Auditorium, against fourth-seeded Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, the game's opening minutes proved problematic as Thetford commanded the floor and the scoreboard, 15–7, but this initial setback was temporary as the Spartans nicely rebounded, breaking for halftime narrowly ahead at 21–19, and

Whereas, the Winooski lead grew to 28–19 shortly before the third quarter's conclusion, and then to a 13-point margin of 41–28 with 3:08 remaining on the clock, and

Whereas, in the final minutes, Thetford displayed renewed scoring momentum, requiring the Spartans to stay focused, but nonetheless, Winooski

won the game 49–41 and captured the 2011 Division III boys' basketball championship, and

Whereas, the true sportsmanship of the two teams was especially noticeable to the spectators, and

Whereas, when the 18–5 Spartans arrived at the edge of Winooski, an official entourage of three Winooski police cars, a similar number of fire engines, and 300 elated fans provided a rousing escort back to Winooski High School where a pizza celebration awaited, and the Winooski City Council formally proclaimed March 22 as a day honoring the team, and

Whereas, the team consisted of Jalen Miller, Allen Michael Robertson, Adam Lind, Okephief Robinson, Kyle Bigelow, Devon Rollins, Nick Cusson-Ducharme, Cory Chaplin, John Truong, Austin Mayo, Abdi Kadawe, Vedak Cicak, and Kevin Pham, and Head Coach Tom Obbagy and Assistant Coach Chuck Rollins were superb teachers and supporters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Winooski High School Spartans Division III championship boys' basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Winooski High School.