

**No. R-161. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Poultney High School Blue Devils Division IV championship basketball team.**

(H.C.R.114)

Offered by: Representatives Donaghy of Poultney and Malcolm of Pawlet

Offered by: Senators Carris, Flory, Mullin and Nitka

Whereas, the Poultney Blue Devils girls' basketball team had never won a state championship, and

Whereas, the 2010–2011 campaign would prove to be the historic year when the Blue Devils set a new standard for girls' basketball at Poultney High School, and

Whereas, the fourth-seeded Blue Devils might not have been the favorite to take the Division IV title, but they proceeded to play a skillful and winning brand of basketball throughout the playoffs, culminating in a berth in the Division IV finals at the Barre Auditorium, and

Whereas, their opponents, the third-seeded Arlington Memorial High School Lady Eagles, are a team well-acquainted with the unique atmosphere of championship play and posed a formidable opponent for the Blue Devils, and

Whereas, in the opening quarter, Arlington assumed an 8–7 lead, placing Poultney in a catch-up position from early in the game, and

Whereas, this small, but real point deficit proved sufficient to spark a Blue Devils' surge as they ignited for an 11–2 scoring run, creating a Poultney lead that never dissipated thereafter, and

Whereas, by halftime, Poultney was ahead 22–17, and as the third period finished, the Blue Devils held an even more commanding 40–26 lead, and

Whereas, to be certain the Division IV crown was heading home to Poultney, the Blue Devils maximized their potential in the final quarter, adding another 11 points while holding the Lady Eagles to only five, and

Whereas, when the final whistle sounded, Poultney had comfortably defeated the championship-tested Lady Eagles 51–31 for a long-dreamed-of Division IV championship victory, and

Whereas, Blue Devils Raeney Paquette, Ashley Simons, Liza Mason, Ali Jones, Rachel Horn, Nicole Bogucki, Kelly Festa, Lindsey Fox, and Emma Lamberton participated in a basketball game that will receive a special place in the athletic chronicles of Poultney High School, and

Whereas, Head Coach Dan Jones and his able assistant coach Brittany Holden deserve due credit for successfully directing the team along the championship path, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Poultney High School Blue Devils Division IV championship basketball team, and be it further

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