

No. R-294. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Johnson State College national Division IV championship women's rugby team.

(S.C.R.29)

By Senators Westman, Doyle, Cummings, Nitka and Pollina,

By Representatives Woodward of Johnson, Shand of Weathersfield, Bohi of Hartford, Christie of Hartford, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, French of Shrewsbury, French of Randolph, Heath of Westford, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Keenan of St. Albans City, Martin of Springfield, Myers of Essex, Peltz of Woodbury, Savage of Swanton, Smith of Morristown, Till of Jericho, Townsend of Randolph, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Wilson of Manchester and Yantachka of Charlotte,

Whereas, the current women's rugby club at Johnson State College (JSC) started merely three years ago when the sport was introduced at the club level, and

Whereas, the fall 2011 season marked the team's first year of competitive play, and

Whereas, rugby fans at Johnson State College did not necessarily hold high expectations that a first-year team would have great success, and

Whereas, the quality of the team's play was truly astounding, as these dedicated college players were strongly motivated to demonstrate their worthiness to be considered as a viable Division IV team, and

Whereas, the only once-defeated JSC women confidently entered the New England Rugby Football Union (NERFU) tournament hopeful of making their initial appearance memorable, and

Whereas, JSC's exciting wins over Springfield College (26–10) and Saint Anselm College (17–12), the one team that had defeated JSC during the regular season, gave JSC the 2011 NERFU championship title, and

Whereas, this upstart first-year JSC team continued to amaze everyone as it traveled to Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where on November 20 it clinched the 2011 national Division IV women's rugby championship title, surpassing previously undefeated Albright College of Reading, Pennsylvania with a 12–5 victory, and

Whereas, team members Molly Banks, Coral Bolio, Taylor Brown, Ashley Carrington, Tiana Cross, Aly Finn, Mikala Frenette, Miranda Giles, Trina Guaraldi, Miranda Ingram, Jules Jacovini, Belinda LaFountain, Paige Libby, Satu Lord, Amara MacKillop, Jessica Mott, Muzzy Wronski, and the national tournament's most valuable player award-winner Nora Wynter can be proud of their singular athletic accomplishment as can Coach Don Allen, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Johnson State College national Division IV championship women's rugby team, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Johnson State College athletic department.