

No. R-421. House concurrent resolution congratulating 2014 Vermont Spelling Bee champion Liam Lustberg.

(H.C.R.311)

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Kupersmith of South Burlington, and Townsend of South Burlington

Offered by: Senators Sirotkin, Ashe, Baruth, Lyons, Snelling, and Zuckerman

Whereas, the E.W. Scripps Company conducts the Scripps National Spelling Bee, an opportunity for students through 8th grade to demonstrate their mastery of the skills necessary to spell correctly English-language words, and

Whereas, as a first step towards admission into this national event, to be held in May near Washington, D.C., youngsters take part in local spelling bees across the country, and

Whereas, students who had competed successfully at their individual schools gathered with understandable excitement and trepidation on March 19, 2014 at St. Michael's College's McCarthy Arts Center for the Vermont Spelling Bee, and

Whereas, judging this event were Vermont Humanities Council Executive Director Peter Gilbert, FairPoint Communications State President Beth Fastiggi, and *Times Argus* Editor Steve Pappas, and *Rutland Herald-Times Argus* Editorial Page Editor Dave Moats, pronounced each word for the student spellers, and

Whereas, on the 26th round, Liam Lustberg, an 8th-grader at the Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School in South Burlington, was declared the winner when he spelled correctly the word pogrom, a noun meaning "an organized massacre and looting of helpless people usually with the connivance of officials," and

Whereas, Liam Lustberg was thrilled and can be proud of his victory that resulted from intensive preparation and practice, and

Whereas, he will now begin a new round of study in anticipation of his all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June to represent Vermont at the Scripps National Spelling Bee, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates 2014 Vermont Spelling Bee champion Liam Lustberg, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Liam Lustberg at the Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School in South Burlington.