

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House Concurrent  
Resolutions**

**of**

**March 31, 2011**

## **Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16**

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of today's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or Senate Secretary's office respectively.

### **Resolutions**

#### **H.C.R. 108.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the 4th annual Jr. Iron Chef VT competition

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Shoreham, Head of South Burlington, Koch of Barre Town, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Manwaring of Wilmington, McFaun of Barre Town, Moran of Wardsboro, Munger of South Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington and Taylor of Barre City

Whereas, farm-to-school programs promote the Vermont agricultural economy and instill in students the importance of healthy diets, and

Whereas, the concepts underlying farm-to-school are the cornerstone of the Jr. Iron Chef competition whose 4th annual edition took place on Saturday, March 26, 2011, at the Champlain Valley Exposition Center in Essex Junction with Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT FEED) and the Burlington School Food Project serving as the cohosts, and

Whereas, 55 student teams of aspiring young culinary masters were instructed to create in just 90 minutes the best school food dish featuring local ingredients, and

Whereas, to add to the excitement and intensity of the event, over 1,000 spectators were observing the student chefs in action as was a highly selective and astute panel of judges, consisting of farmers, legislators, food service directors, teachers, and Armando Vilaseca, commissioner of education, and

Whereas, when the permitted cooking time had expired, the judges had the pleasure of examining and sampling each entry, and

Whereas, the three teams of middle school winners and their delicious creations included: *Best in Show*: Team Murdock (Twin Valley Middle School), Dried Cherry, Root Vegetable Chili with Potato Pancake; *Most Creative Dish*: Barre City Chefs (Barre City Middle School), Grilled Vermont

Root Veggie Cakes; and *Greatest Number and Best Use of Local Ingredients*: Barre Town Bobcats (Barre Town Middle School), “Save the Hen” Nuggets with Nature’s Best BBQ Sauce, and

Whereas, their high school counterparts whipped up equally enticing winning entrees, including: *Best in Show*: Hakuna Matata (Twin Valley High School), Empanadas; *Most Creative Dish*: Food Fighters (Centerpoint School in South Burlington), Blue Mash with Roots and Rings; and *Greatest Number and Best Use of Local Ingredients*: Rebel Chefs (South Burlington High School), Veggie Chili with Cornbread Topping, and

Whereas, each of these honored teams demonstrated ingenuity and effective time management in winning special recognition, but all of the participants in the Jr. Iron Chef VT competition gained a better understanding of Vermont agricultural products and their use in preparing healthy food, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winning teams at the 4th annual Jr. Iron Chef VT competition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the team winners and to VT FEED.

#### **H.C.R. 109.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Barre Blades Pee Wee B hockey team on winning the Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association championship

Offered by: Representatives Toll of Danville, Koch of Barre Town, Lewis of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, Poirier of Barre City and Taylor of Barre City

Offered by: Senators Benning, Cummings, Doyle, Kitchel and Pollina

Whereas, in 17 years, the Barre Youth Sports Association boys’ hockey teams have not won a state championship, and

Whereas, the Barre Blades Pee Wee B team commenced the 2011 Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association’s tournament with a loss, and

Whereas, the team battled through the loser’s bracket of this double elimination tournament, winning seven straight games, and

Whereas, on February 13, 2011, the Barre Blades Pee Wee B team played in the final championship game against the originally undefeated team, and

Whereas, the opponent scored a goal first, followed by a goal from the Barre Blades, and

Whereas, two more goals were scored by the opposing team, and the Barre Blades scored one more goal, leaving the opposing team leading by one goal late in the third period, and

Whereas, the Barre Blades did not despair, and with less than three minutes remaining in the game, the team tied the score, forcing an overtime period, and

Whereas, 23 seconds into the overtime period, the Barre Blades Pee Wee B team scored the winning goal, taking the first Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association's championship for a Barre Youth Sports Association hockey team in 17 years, and

Whereas, the Barre Blades Pee Wee B team consisting of Alex Arguin, Sam Barr, Nick Blow, Aaron Brier, Jake Couture, Peter Evans, Spencer Fewer, Isaac Kingwood, Marshall Lindley, Ryan Palmisano, and Ryan Vasseur fought hard, never gave up, and with determination and skill found a way to win the championship, and

Whereas, Head Coach Jason LaCroix and assistant coach Todd Blow volunteered countless hours, showed exemplary dedication to this outstanding group of young men, shared their numerous skills, and enabled each young man to play to his maximum ability, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulate the 2011 Barre Blades Pee Wee B hockey team on winning the Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jason LaCroix and to Todd Blow.

**H.C.R. 110.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Amanda Eldridge on winning the 2010 Positive Youth Sports Alliance of Essex's coach of the year award

Offered by: Representatives Waite-Simpson of Essex, Evans of Essex, Jerman of Essex, Myers of Essex and Heath of Westford

Whereas, the Positive Youth Sports Alliance of Essex (PYSA) was established in 2007 in order to create a more cohesive partnership among youth athletes, coaches and organizational leaders, and

Whereas, the mission of the PYSA is “to promote a positive sports experience that will teach lifelong lessons through personal growth and healthy competition,” and

Whereas, the guiding principles of the PYSA include unifying youth sports and community partners and educating young athletes in positive sportsmanship, and

Whereas, the 13 partnering entities include local schools, community youth sports programs, and municipal organizations, and

Whereas, the PYSA annually designates a coach of the year who is associated with one of the 13 eligible partners, and

Whereas, a nominee for this honor must support the PYSA’s mission and show respect for rules, opponents, officials, teammates, and one’s self; acknowledge the life-learning role of making mistakes and losing; place the needs of the athletes first; and be a positive role, and

Whereas, in 2010, the selected nominee and winner of this award was Amanda Eldridge, the girls’ rugby coach at Essex High School, the first woman to be so honored, and

Whereas, the Essex High School girls’ rugby team was Vermont’s first, and Amanda Eldridge has been its coach for the past 13 seasons, and

Whereas, the Rugby players’ parents nominated her because she “is strong, independent, confident, dedicated, caring and kind,” and an ideal role model for their daughters, and

Whereas, Amanda Eldridge explained that her love of rugby coaching centers on her satisfaction in assisting young high school girls transform into confident women, and

Whereas, Amanda Eldridge’s nomination was one of 16, and her selection reflects her outstanding character and leadership ability, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Amanda Eldridge on winning the 2010 Positive Youth Sports Alliance of Essex’s coach of the year award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Amanda Eldridge in Essex.

**H.C.R. 111.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Meigan Clark on winning the 2011 Vermont state spelling bee

Offered by: Representative Ralston of Middlebury and Representative Nuovo of Middlebury

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, the Vermont state spelling bee affords youngsters the opportunity to test their spelling skills against those of their peers from across the state, and

Whereas, participants prepare for this academic challenge by devoting many hours to expanding their spelling knowledge, and

Whereas, any history of the Vermont state spelling bee will duly record that the 2011 version of this annual event set a record for the number of rounds required to determine a winner, and

Whereas, the winner, Meigan Clark, is a studious and talented sixth-grader at the Mary Hogan School in Middlebury for whom the word “perseverance” has become an accurate description, and

Whereas, after 18 demanding rounds of competition, five stalwart spellers remained in contention, and

Whereas, for repeated rounds thereafter, these five students continued to demonstrate a lexicographer’s knowledge of the English language, correctly spelling each word, even those words derived from the Dutch, Afrikaans, and Hawaiian languages, and

Whereas, beginning in the 26th round, the pronouncer posed a new challenge for the contestants by requiring them to spell words not included in the advance study guide, and three of the five remaining students were quickly retired from the competition, and

Whereas, the two remaining contestants continued into the 31st round until Meigan Clark correctly spelled the word “scurrilous” and was crowned the 2011 winner of the Vermont state spelling bee, and

Whereas, Meigan Clark’s effective preparation, for which her father served as the word pronouncer, included lining up her dolls, stuffed animals, and trolls to represent the competitors while she spelled the words on their behalf, and

Whereas, this well-deserved victory qualifies Meigan Clark to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee to be held in May in Washington, D.C., now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Meigan Clark on winning the 2011 Vermont state spelling bee, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Meigan Clark.

**H.C.R. 112.**

House concurrent resolution honoring the women and girls associated with the Wells River Congregational Church

Offered by: Representative Conquest of Newbury

Whereas, women have long played a major role in Vermont's history, and

Whereas, one of the premier Vermont historians was Abby Hemenway, the editor of the five-volume local history compendium known as the *Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, and

Whereas, long before Edna Beard became the first woman to serve in the general assembly or Consuelo Northrup Bailey became Vermont's first woman speaker of the house and the first woman lieutenant governor in the country or Madeleine May Kunin became the state's first woman governor, Vermont women were serving as civic and educational leaders in their local communities, and

Whereas, since March 1987, Women's History Month has been observed in the United States to honor the many women whose societal contributions have left an enduring legacy for our state and nation, and

Whereas, March 8, 2011 marked the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and is an official holiday in many nations, and

Whereas, women active in many community endeavors and young girls who aspire to follow in their footsteps deserve special recognition during Women's History Month, and

Whereas, the Wells River Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, has a tremendous history of supporting women and girls through an active women's fellowship, Sunday school, and numerous ministries and through electing women to serve as ministers, deacons, and trustees and to other leadership positions, and

Whereas, on Sunday, March 27, 2011, the Wells River Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, will pay tribute to women and girls whose dynamic lives contribute to the vibrancy and quality of life both in the church and in the greater Wells River community, and

Whereas, the Women and Girls' Day service will include the history of the congregation's women and girls that Mrs. Dorothy G. Stevens will share with the congregation of which her membership is entering its 81st year; support of a girl through the Gifted Girl Award; and encouragement for women and girls

to pursue endeavors as societal leaders and innovators, whether those pursuits occur in a house of worship, a school, a town, a state, a nation, or an international community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honor the women and girls of the Wells River Congregational Church, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Pastor Elizabeth J. A. Siwo-Okundi and the Wells River Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

**H.C.R. 113.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Norwich University Cadets NCAA Division III championship women's ice hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield and Grad of Moretown

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Doyle and Pollina

Whereas, for an athletic program only in its fourth year of varsity competition, the Norwich University Cadets women's ice hockey team has made enormous strides, having reached the final game of the 2010 NCAA Division III postseason play, and

Whereas, again in 2011, the Cadets dominated each NCAA championship game, advancing to the final faceoff in Rochester, New York where Norwich encountered the hometown favorite, the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Tigers, and

Whereas, the Norwich women swiftly skated their way to scoring the game's first goal less than 90 seconds into the contest, and just over a minute later, the Cadets sent the puck into the corner of the goal zone, but because it immediately bounced back into play, more than a minute passed before the scoreboard showed Norwich on top 2-0, and

Whereas, although RIT scored its first goal at 7:52, Norwich regained a 2-goal margin slightly over 10 minutes later when a Cadet scored a natural hat trick, making the score 3-1, but before the first period ended, the Tigers had once again narrowed Norwich's lead to 3-2, and

Whereas, the middle period's only scoring was a Cadet power play goal at roughly the midpoint, extending the Norwich lead to 4-2, and

Whereas, Norwich added a final goal at 3:12 into the third period, giving the Cadets a 5-2 lead at the final buzzer and the 2011 NCAA Division III women's ice hockey championship, the team's first national title, and



Whereas, Cadets Joanie Plamondon, Elle Kadel, Brittany Casey, Baylie Lamarre, Sarianne Lynn, Julie Fortier, Brittany Sharman, Sophie Leclerc, Bianca Bogda, Sarah Scardino, Emily Goff, Brittane Michaud, Kayla Lascelle, Jilayne DeBus, Amanda Wilks, Marie-Philip Guay, Kelsey Cone, Stephanie Invernizzi, Caitie Banfield, Meghan Papagno, Kayla Parsons, Mollie Fitzpatrick, Melissa Rundlett, Jacqueline Perez, Renee Lortie, Haley Gibson, Cindy Fortin, and Kelly Fisk were elated and jubilant, and

Whereas, Head Coach Mark Bolding and assistant coaches Keith Maurice and Holly Russo were key personnel in the team's historic 2010–2011 season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Norwich University Cadets NCAA Division III championship women's ice hockey team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Norwich University athletics department.

#### **H.C.R. 114.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Poultney High School Blue Devils Division IV championship basketball team

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 Lambertson 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.

#### **H.C.R. 115.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Windsor High School Yellow Jackets Division III championship girls' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Sweaney of Windsor, Bartholomew of Hartland and Shand of Weathersfield

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, the 2010 Division III girls' basketball champions, the Windsor High School Yellow Jackets, played in a consistently exciting and winning style during the 2010–2011 season, resulting in their achieving the coveted first seed in the playoff competition, and

Whereas, the post-season games were opportunities for Windsor to add to its victory total and proved the pathway to a 2011 championship appearance against the second-seeded Lake Region Rangers, and

Whereas, these roughly evenly matched teams were tied 1–1 in regular season competition, and

Whereas, the early minutes of the championship contest played in Barre reflected both teams’ strong basketball skills as the lead switched a half dozen times in the first three minutes and 25 seconds, and

Whereas, at that point, two successful Windsor free throws gave the Yellow Jackets an insurmountable lead which expanded to 30–19 at the game’s midpoint, and

Whereas, in the second half, the Yellow Jackets were in front by as many as 18 points, leading 43–25 with 5:17 to play, and

Whereas, the Rangers showed a great comeback capacity, rebounding with 13 additional points in the game’s closing minutes, but the Windsor lead was too great to surmount and the Yellow Jackets became the 2011 Division III girls’ basketball champions, defeating their rivals 49–38, and

Whereas, each proud Yellow Jacket player, including Abigail Wright, Lindsey Buckman, Kimberly White, Katelyn Curtis, Tegan Coley, Kaitlin Callahan, Molly Bruno, Nikki White, Amber Heath, Ashlee Dimick, Allison Wilcox, Brooke Clark, Grace Peters, Nikki Kibling, and Laurel Dana, contributed her best performance all season long, and

Whereas, Head Coach Bruce McKay and Assistant Coaches Ross Farnsworth and Sarah Attwood deserve credit for their skillful leadership which led to a stupendous 21–3 season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulate the 2011 Windsor High School Yellow Jackets Division III championship girls’ basketball team, and be it further

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

**H.C.R. 116.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Middlebury Union High School Tigers Division II championship boys’ ice hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Ralston of Middlebury and Nuovo of Middlebury

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, the third-seeded Middlebury Tigers boys' ice hockey team and their Stowe Raider counterparts could not have envisioned a more eventful Division II championship game at Burlington, and

Whereas, Middlebury initiated the scoring at 5:45 into the first period when from the top of the left circle, a Tiger fired a slap shot past the Raider goalie, and

Whereas, then at 2:27 into the second period, the puck ricocheted out of the net as the Tiger goalie blocked a potential Raider goal, only to have another Raider send it back in to tie the score, and

Whereas, twice during the third period, Stowe's supporters experienced moments of hockey exultation before the disappointment of an alternative reality sunk in as the Raiders appeared to have scored first at 4:06 into the third period, and then again with 7:30 remaining in regulation play, and

Whereas, the result of those referee decisions, plus a spectacular Tiger save with seven seconds left in the third period, left the game tied 1–all at the third period's conclusion and necessitated an exciting overtime of hockey action, and

Whereas, the tie was broken when a Tiger took possession of the puck and skated up the ice before carefully aiming and shooting the puck into the upper right corner of the goal zone for a 2–1 Middlebury victory, and

Whereas, Tigers Nick Bruch, Devin Dwire, Graham Barlow, Ryan Crowningshield, Andrew Myhre, Nick Audet, Colin Babcock, Erik Averill, Tim Shea, Steel White, Keenan Bartlett, Chris Hickley, Sawyer Hescocock, Trevor Emilo, Allen Vincent, Kevin Galenkamp, Nick Leach, Jordan Stearns, Cody Gendreau, Arlon Staats, Sawyer McLaughlin, Max Longchamp, and Edgar Sherman are pleased to be members of the first Middlebury ice hockey championship team since 1996, and Head Coach Derek Bartlett, assistant coaches Jim Derosia and Chase Goodrich, and manager Willis Varno were important contributors to the team's success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Middlebury Union High School Division II championship boys' ice hockey team, and be it further

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

**H.C.R. 117.**

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Medicare hospice program

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, numerous Vermonters and their families have received compassionate and dignified end-of-life care offered during the final days or weeks of life, and

Whereas, hospice care addresses physical comfort of a patient and offers emotional support for both the terminally ill and their families, and

Whereas, in 1980, Medicare, the federal government's health insurance program for persons age 65 and older, sought proposals to develop and implement 26 demonstration sites throughout the United States, and

Whereas, the leadership of Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice was interested in providing hospice care in the Northeast Kingdom but recognized that no Vermont health care organization was sufficiently large enough to be considered for inclusion in the Health Care Finance Administration's (now the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) hospice demonstration project, and

Whereas, the Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice challenged the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties, Caledonia Home Health and Hospice, Lamoille Home Health and Hospice, and the Franklin County Home Health Agency to combine their resources and submit their proposal which was accepted as a unified applicant to provide care for the northern tier of Vermont through the federal study, and

Whereas, the success of the hospice demonstration project three decades ago served as the foundation and model for development of hospice care in the United States which now ensures universal access to quality end-of-life care throughout Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 30th anniversary of the beginning of hospice care in northern Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the health care organizations named in this resolution.

#### **H.C.R. 118.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Lamoille Union High School Lancers Division II girls' basketball championship team

Offered by: Representatives Woodward of Johnson, Howard of Cambridge and Martin of Wolcott

Offered by: Senator Westman

Whereas, in 2011, the 2010 Division II champion Lamoille Union High School Lancers girls' basketball team remained a talented squad, and

Whereas, when the regular season's final basket was scored, Lamoille had won all but one game and secured the first seed for tournament competition, and

Whereas, the Lancers again earned a berth in the championship game played at the Barre Auditorium against the third-seeded Eagles of Mount Abraham Union High School, but their defending champion status did not assure a 2011 victory, and

Whereas, in fact, with 1:55 remaining in the first quarter, the Eagles led 12–8, but the Lancers responded decisively with an 18–0 run during which five team members scored, and

Whereas, good fortune, or more accurately, skillful and thoughtful ball handling, enabled the Lancers to gain a 34–15 lead at halftime and to send them ahead 45–25 late in the third quarter, and

Whereas, now the Eagles realized their serious predicament and began their own exclusive 12–0 scoring spree, preventing a single Lancer point for eight minutes, and

Whereas, despite the Eagles' reducing the Lamoille lead to 45–37, when the final buzzer sounded, the Lancers were victorious 50–42 and returned home with their second consecutive Division II championship, and

Whereas, the roster of dedicated Lamoille girl basketball players included Shaunna Haley, Erin Stokes, Nikki Lafreniere, Ashley Jones, Emily Slayton, Jillian Emery, Ashley Vanat, Katie Lafreniere, Carly Ackley, Chelsea Dunham, and Maia Buckingham, and Head Coach Tim Messier, assistant coaches Greg Stokes and Mark Cattelona, program assistants Stacy Stokes and Amanda Lass, and team manager Kelly Shaw each contributed to the Lancer's first-ever consecutive girls' basketball titles, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Lamoille Union High School Lancers Division II championship girls' basketball team, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 119.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Winooski High School Spartans Division III championship boys' basketball team

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.