

No. R-150. House concurrent resolution congratulating the University of Vermont Catamounts men's basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship.

(H.C.R.117)

Offered by: Representatives Ode of Burlington, Jerome of Brandon, Priestley of Bradford, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senator Baruth

Whereas, starting on January 19, 2023, the University of Vermont Catamounts men's basketball team launched an enviable streak of 15 consecutive victories, finishing as the top regular-season America East competitor and as the corresponding first seed for the conference's championship tournament, and

Whereas, in the decisive game of the tournament, played at Patrick Gymnasium against the second-seeded University of Massachusetts Lowell River Hawks, the Catamounts rebounded from a 29–25 halftime deficit to win the game decisively, 72–59, and clinch the school's 10th America East crown, and

Whereas, the America East title earned UVM the No. 15 seed at the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) March Madness playoffs, and

Whereas, although the No. 2 Marquette University Golden Eagles defeated UVM 78–61 in a first-round NCAA game played in Columbus, Ohio, the Catamounts concluded a memorable 23–11 season, and the entire squad, consisting of Ileri Ayo-Faleye, Aaron Deloney, Sam Alamutu, TJ Hurley, Kam Gibson, Perry Smith Jr., Dylan Penn, Jackson Skipper, Finn Sullivan, Matt Veretto, Michel Ndayishimiye, Nick Fiorillo, Jorge Ochoa, and Robin Duncan, was amazing, and

Whereas, Head Coach John Becker, who has won more America East Conference championships than any other coach in league history, Associate Head Coach Ryan Schneider, and assistant coaches Chris Santo, Bryson Johnson, and Derryk O'Grady were proud of the team's achievements, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the University of Vermont Catamounts men's basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Office of Athletics at the University of Vermont.