

**No. R-330. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars dance team on winning the school's eighth State jazz and 18th overall State dancing championship.**

(H.C.R.272)

Offered by Representatives Graning of Jericho, Brown of Richmond, Squirrell of Underhill, Stevens of Waterbury, and Wood of Waterbury

Offered by Senators Chittenden, Lyons and Ram Hinsdale

*Whereas*, dance is often considered an exclusively leisure pursuit, bereft of a competitive aspect, but the annual Vermont Principals' Association's State dance championship offers enthusiastic high school hip-hop, jazz, and pom dancers the chance to compete for honors as the best in their respective genres, and

*Whereas*, the Cougars' history of excellence in jazz and hip-hop dancing is impressive, as, prior to 2026, Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU) had won 18 championships in either one or both genres, including both titles in 2017 and 2019–2024; hip-hop in 2016, 2018, and 2025; and jazz in 2026, and

*Whereas*, in 2026, although MMU was the respectable runner-up to Middlebury High School in the hip-hop category, the Cougars excelled in the jazz competition, as the MMU dancers responded to the music's beat and rhythm with the ideal steps and swings to clinch the 2026 championship, proving once again their appreciation for America's own musical art form, and

*Whereas*, the winning jazz-dancing Cougars were Abrum Alexander, Maddie Brown, Norah Burton, Emilia Carini, Elise Cournoyer, Gabby Cowan, Addie Dowd, Quinn Gilmer, Lily Ide, and Kate LaMantia, Annie Marek, Zoey Marek, Anya Muller, Nadia Muller, Munashe Pfende, Olivia Reyome, Audrey Rogers, Zoe Van Duyn, and

*Whereas*, the MMU team's coaching staff, consisting of Rose Bedard, Lisa Russin, Edie Watson, Addie Price, and Ella Davis, served as a fantastic group of instructors and mentors, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2026 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars dance team on winning the school's eighth State jazz and 18th overall State dancing championships, *and be it further*

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