

# State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

## Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 289

Offered by Representatives Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, and Goodnow of Brattleboro

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Brattleboro Union High School championship mock trial team

*Whereas*, for the past decade, the Vermont Mock Trial Competition for high school students has offered students a combined educational and experiential opportunity to engage in the full scope of the courtroom process, and

*Whereas*, in 2026, the students were challenged with a criminal case listing charges of murder as an accessory and conspiracy to commit murder, and

*Whereas*, the participating student attorneys were presented a case packet consisting of a maximum of six witness affidavits and associated exhibits; based on these materials, they drafted opening statements, direct and cross-examination questions, and closing arguments, and

*Whereas*, the competition's curriculum also includes instruction on courtroom procedure and the rules of evidence, and

*Whereas*, aside from the litigation-specific elements, this academic exercise enables the students to improve their critical thinking and public speaking skills, and

*Whereas*, this year's competition was held at Vermont Law and Graduate School in South Royalton on March 14, 2026, and the panel of 15 judges included members of the federal and State Judiciary, as well as practicing lawyers, and

*Whereas*, after all the trial proceedings had concluded and the judges assessed the student advocates, the Brattleboro Union High School (BUHS) team was awarded first place honors, and

*Whereas*, the BUHS lawyers were Abraham Balint-Wohl, Danny Mahoney-Schmitt, Sal North, and Isabel Young; the school's student witnesses were Leland Stromberg, Eli Welch, and Gilbert Komuves; the faculty coaches were Tessa Anders and Ashley Nadeau; and Alycia Sanders served as the practicing attorney advisor, and

*Whereas*, the selection of BUHS as the competition's top team reflects the diligent preparation of these outstanding students, *now therefore be it*

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

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2026 Brattleboro Union High School championship mock trial team, *and be it further*

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