

2013 -- H 5966

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING THE 34 FRESHMEN AT NORTH SMITHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
WHO WON THE RHODE ISLAND "WE THE PEOPLE" COMPETITION**

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Mattiello, Shekarchi, Trillo, and Chippendale

Date Introduced: April 04, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, North Smithfield High School freshmen have taken the first-place slot in the
2 state's "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" competition for a seventh year in a row;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Competition" is
5 sponsored by the Center for Civic Education and is a yearly competition held in Washington,
6 D.C., for American high school students. Teams are divided into six units, each comprised of
7 three or more members, and each team focuses on a particular area of Constitutional interest; and

8 WHEREAS, On February 14, 2013, at West Warwick High School, a group of 34
9 freshmen from North Smithfield High School under the guidance of honors American
10 Government teacher, Mrs. Natalie O'Brien, competed against students from area high schools to
11 win the "We the People" Competition. Since September, the freshmen class had labored for
12 countless hours to study the Constitution, its founding principles, and its historical and modern
13 applications; and

14 WHEREAS, The competition requires that students deliver a prepared statement on a
15 specific Constitutional topic and answer a series of questions asked by a panel of judges. The
16 students prepare for a wide variety of potential follow-up questions, are not allowed to use any
17 materials, and are not aware of the questions they will be asked until they are posed. The students
18 are required to develop the important skills of critical thinking and performing under pressure;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, As a result of their on February 14th victory, this class will travel to
2 Washington, D.C., from April 26th through April 30th to represent Rhode Island in the National
3 Finals; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
5 Providence Plantations hereby extend our congratulations to honors American Government
6 teacher, Mrs. Natalie O'Brien, and the following 34 freshmen students of North Smithfield High
7 School: Casey Aridano, Gwen Brannigan, Riley Boucher, Melissa Cianci, Nick Degnan, Doug
8 Deslauriers, Patrick Eddy, Kyle Eldridge, Eric Ethier, Cameron Furtado, Robin Hall, Jacob
9 Haner, Oliver Hazard, Chris Hetu, Madison Hill, Josh Kruzan, Kim L'Etoile, Josh Labonte, Alex
10 Lachance, Matthew Laferriere, Allison Lambert, Maddie LaPlante, Emily Larson, Cassandra
11 Malo, Heather McClure, Caitlin Murray, Marc Parsons, Emily Pelletier, Sarah Pugliese, Zachary
12 Racine, Julia Rodrigues, Rebecca Soito, Olivia Stone, and Luke Watkins, for winning the Rhode
13 Island "We the People" Competition, and we wish this hard-working class the best of luck in the
14 National Competition; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
16 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to honors American Government teacher Mrs.
17 Natalie O'Brien and the 34 freshmen of North Smithfield High School who will represent Rhode
18 Island in the National "We the People" Competition.

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