

2024 -- H 8288

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LC006121
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND SOPHOMORE SOPHIA ELISE
WOOD FOR HER MANY OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN RIFLERY
MARKSMANSHIP

Introduced By: Representatives P. Morgan, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Fenton-Fung, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Tanzi, Kennedy, and Ajello

Date Introduced: May 21, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Sophia Elise Wood is the daughter of Michele and David Wood and has two
2 sisters, Katie and Allie. She is an outstanding student-athlete attending the University of Rhode
3 Island, and is completing her sophomore year, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and minoring
4 in Leadership Studies. She is an outstanding athlete who has performed magnificently at the
5 highest levels of riflery competition both in Rhode Island and the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood began Olympic-style 3 position smallbore rifle shooting in
7 January of 2020, quickly learning each of the shooting positions, prone, kneeling and standing. A
8 quick study, she competed in her very first competitive match for the South County Rod and Gun
9 Club Junior Rifle Team in January of 2021, finishing 4th on her team and in 7th place overall. In
10 her very next match, she finished in 1st place on her team and her reputation as an elite marksman
11 in Rhode Island took off, with her recording a stellar 469 score at the 2021 Rhode Island Junior
12 Olympic Championships. Soon thereafter, she broke 500 for the first time and led her team in
13 average score for the 2020-2021 season; and

14 WHEREAS, In her second season of riflery competition, Ms. Wood once again led her
15 team in average scoring. She placed 4th in the 2022 Rhode Island Junior Olympic Championships
16 and 5th in the season-ending Governor's Cup. She also competed for the first time in the Rhode
17 Island Senior Smallbore League, a 3-position league open to all athletes aged 18 and older.
18 Incredibly, she finished in 4th place, competing against older and more experienced athletes; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood continued her ascent into the rarified air of elite shooters in the

1 2022-2023 season, winning both the Rhode Island Junior Olympic Smallbore Championship and
2 the Air Rifle Championship. These accomplishments earned her an invite to the National Junior
3 Olympic Championships held in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and

4 WHEREAS, In her latest season, Ms. Wood repeated as the State of Rhode Island Junior
5 Olympic champion in Smallbore shooting and air rifle shooting. Her smallbore score of 572 was
6 the highest score in the last 5 years at the Rhode Island Junior Olympics. She was once again
7 invited to compete at the National Junior Olympic Championships where she recorded a personal
8 record score of 609.1 in the 60-shot standing air rifle; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood also led her South County Rod and Gun Club Senior Rifle Team
10 to a sterling 18-2 record and finished with the highest individual scores in kneeling shooting and
11 standing shooting for the league. She led the University of Rhode Island Rifle Team in its first
12 season of competition. The team finished with an undefeated 3-0 record, and Ms. Wood finished
13 in first place in smallbore shooting at the Mid-Atlantic Rifle Conference Championships. She also
14 compiled the highest aggregate score in the combined smallbore and air rifle competition; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood has also competed in the Civilian Marksmanship Program
16 National Matches, the Massachusetts Bay State Games, the Connecticut Nutmeg games where
17 she earned gold medals in the 3-position and prone shooting, the West Point Open, and the New
18 Hampshire State Championships; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
20 honors Sophia Elise Wood for excelling in Riflery shooting and in the classroom as a sophomore
21 student at the University of Rhode Island; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
23 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Sophia Elise Wood.

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