

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 135

By Hackworth

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Linden Elementary School First Lego League Team on winning first place at the 2008 Lego League Competition.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those fine elementary students who, even at a young age, exemplify creativity and teamwork and serve as a positive example to their peers and elders alike; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy team is the Linden Elementary School First Lego League Team, which came in first place at the Lego League competition on December 6, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the team beat fifty-one other teams of students, ages nine through fourteen, from across the State, earning themselves a spot as the Tennessee representatives at the U.S. Open Championship in Dayton, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the members of this triumphant elementary school team, who call themselves the Linden Wagga Wagga Warriors, include Luke Buckner, Zach Kendall, Eli Clayton, Kevin Mihealsick, Lucas Dunning, Brandon Villasana, Andreas Franco, Jacob Vittone, Jonas Grayson, and Michael Zheludev; the team's coaches are Lisa Buckner and Norma Franco; and

WHEREAS, each year, the competition focuses on a different real-world topic or theme related to the sciences, and each challenge within the competition then revolves around that theme; and

WHEREAS, the competition includes robotics and research sections; the robotics portion involves the designing and programming of Lego robots to complete tasks; and

WHEREAS, for the research portion, students are asked to offer solutions to various problems they are given; this year's teams were asked to make "Climate Connections," and each team was required to research their local climate and identify problems within it; and

WHEREAS, each team was also required to find another place in the world that shared its climate and experienced similar problems before researching solutions that were already in place or could be enacted; and

WHEREAS, the Linden Elementary team identified the city of Wagga Wagga in New South Wales, Australia, which shares a similar climate with their own city of Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, through their extensive research, the team learned about the climate problems of Oak Ridge and other parts of Tennessee, isolated these problems, worked together toward common solutions, and wrote a highly impressive report of their research, which they sent to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to pause in its deliberations to honor and congratulate the students of the Linden Elementary School First Lego League Team for their extensive and helpful research, thank them for sharing their wisdom with other Tennessee citizens, and congratulate them on their well-deserved win; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the team members and coaches of the Linden Elementary School First Lego League Team on their many accomplishments and upon their winning of first place at the 2008 Lego League Competition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish them much continued success as they compete on a national level in the U.S. Open.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.