

2018 -- S 2939

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE CHARLES E. SHEA HIGH SCHOOL UNIFIED BASKETBALL  
TEAM FOR WINNING THE RHODE ISLAND DIVISION IV STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Crowley, Conley, Metts, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: May 31, 2018

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Unified sports partners students with developmental disabilities (athletes),  
2 and those without (partners) in athletic competition. In Unified Basketball, three athletes team up  
3 with two partners, with the athletes being allowed to shoot while the partners rebound, dribble  
4 and pass. Unified sports is a way of bringing special needs students together with their peers; and

5 WHEREAS, After completing a winning regular season in its first season of competition,  
6 the Shea High School Unified Basketball Team entered the Rhode Island Division IV Unified  
7 Basketball Tournament as a two-seed. Upon advancing to the championship game, the Shea  
8 Unified Team stunned the favored one-seed North Providence High School Team and won the  
9 State Championship by the score of 52 to 45; and

10 WHEREAS, Winning a state title in any sport is an immense achievement, one that  
11 requires that every player on the team give one hundred percent and works seamlessly with their  
12 teammates as each member places team goals ahead of individual aspirations. The Charles E.  
13 Shea Unified Basketball Team had these traits in abundance as they were led all season by the  
14 sterling play provided by Hendrick Cepeda-Olivera, Ralph Menard, Tyler Shea, Jowell DaSilva,  
15 Abraham Balogun, Keven Santos, Devin Fonseca, Louis Whitehead, and Jason Roche. The  
16 Charles E. Shea Unified Basketball Team also benefitted all season by the superb coaching and  
17 leadership provided by Head Coach Steve DeMeo and Facilitators Lori Wilbur and Stefanie  
18 Forte; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 hereby congratulates the Charles E. Shea Unified Basketball Team for winning the Rhode Island  
2 Division IV Championship; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
4 transmit a duly certified copy of resolution of this resolution by Head Coach Steve DeMeo.

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