

2015 -- H 6028

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LC001943
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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

**CONGRATULATING THE NORTH SMITHFIELD "WE THE PEOPLE" STUDENTS ON
WINNING THE 2015 STATEWIDE COMPETITION**

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Casey, Kennedy, O`Grady, and Malik

Date Introduced: April 02, 2015

Referred To: House read and passed

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

5 WHEREAS, On February 7th of 2015, thirty-one students from North Smithfield High
6 School, under the expert guidance of their American Government honors class teacher and the
7 Social Studies Department chair, Mrs. Natalie O'Brien, competed against students from high
8 schools across the state and won the "We the People" competition. It is the ninth year in a row
9 that students representing North Smithfield High School have won the state competition; and

10 WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the school year in September, student team members
11 have been arduously studying the Constitution, its founding principles, and its historic and
12 modern application; and

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

19 WHEREAS, As a result of their state victory on February 7th, the team will be

1 representing Rhode Island in the National Finals of the "We the People: The Citizen and the
2 Constitution Competition" on April 25th and 26th in Washington, D.C.; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
4 Providence Plantations hereby extends our congratulations for winning the Rhode Island "We the
5 People" Competition to American Government honors class teacher, Mrs. Natalie O'Brien, and
6 the following 31 students from North Smithfield High School: MaKenzie Anderson, Quintyn
7 Anderson, Abigayle Beauchemin, Adam Blakemore, Emily Cabral, Lauren Cenedella, Jessica
8 Daltorio, Ryan Deslauriers, Sarah Deslauriers, Dante Driscoll, Katelyn Dubois, Jacqueline Eddy,
9 Rachel Ferland, Rachel Finn, Sara Gendron, Kaylee Goyette, Madeline Hanlon, Jillian Hoppe,
10 Alyana Kozlik, Alexis LaBelle, Jacob Labonte, Cassandra Laferriere, Nathan Lemoine, Rebecca
11 Majeau, Ashley Marchand, Lucas Mariotti, Connor McMullin, Adem Meksavanh, Alexander
12 Thurley, Vanessa Venkataraman, and Elizabeth Votta. We moreover wish them the best of luck at
13 the National Finals; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Natalie O'Brien.

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