

2022 -- H 8365

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE WESTERLY HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM ON WINNING
THE 2022 RHODE ISLAND DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Representatives Azzinaro, Kennedy, Filippi, Shekarchi, Blazejewski,
and Fellela

Date Introduced: June 22, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Westerly Bulldogs Baseball Team compiled an outstanding 20-2
2 Divisional record, good for a first place finish and a one seed in the Rhode Island State
3 Championship Tournament. After receiving a first round bye, Westerly easily dispatched
4 Tiverton in the quarterfinals by a 12-2 score to advance to the semifinals; and

5 WHEREAS, In the best of three semifinals against St. Raphael Academy, the Bulldogs
6 dropped the first game, before storming back to win the final two games in dominating fashion by
7 the scores of 10-1 and 10-0 respectively, to advance to the finals; and

8 WHEREAS, In the best of three championship finals, Westerly prevailed in an exciting
9 and hard-fought series, two games to one. After dropping the first game, the Bulldogs kept their
10 championship hopes alive by winning game two 7-2. In the deciding game, Westerly prevailed 2-
11 0 to win the championship thanks to a masterful three-hit pitching performance by Michael Poole,
12 who was named the game's Most Outstanding Player; and

13 WHEREAS, Westerly also prevailed in the deciding game thanks to Greg Gorman's
14 clutch home run in the first inning as the Bulldogs jumped out to an important 2-0 lead early in
15 the game, Nick Fiore's wizardry at second base as he came through with big defensive plays to
16 protect the lead including making a diving catch on the outfield grass with players on base, and
17 making another diving catch on a bunt attempt, and left fielder Drew Bozek throwing out a runner
18 at home plate; and

19 WHEREAS, Winning a State Championship is an incredible feat that is only possible if

1 every player on the team puts team needs ahead of personal aspirations. The Westerly Bulldogs
2 Baseball Team had those attributes in abundance as they were led all season by the important
3 contributions provided by Mike Barton, Timmy Fagan, Josh Ferando, Joseph Gabriele, Johnnie
4 Gingerella, Andrew Jacobson, Cameron Lajoie, Luigi Marchionne, Samuel Nicholson, Jayden
5 Parker, Renzo Terenzio, Cole Urso, Noah Burdick, Trey Rekestis, Dean Pons, Jr., DeLuca Kyan,
6 Travis Costa, Shep Simmons, Evan Clyne, Drew Bozek, Nick Tria, Greg Gorman, Zach Beckler,
7 Jack Tenuta, Zachary Miner, Michael Poole, and Brayden Champlin. The Bulldogs also
8 benefitted all season from the outstanding coaching and leadership provided by Head Coach Ron
9 Sposato, and Assistant Coaches Bob Shaffer and Joe Baldini; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
11 heartily congratulates the Westerly Baseball Team on winning the Rhode Island Division II
12 Baseball Championship; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Westerly Baseball Head Coach, Ron Sposato.

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