

2023 -- H 6446

LC003068

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING BRIAN JOHNSON ON BEING CHOSEN TO REPRESENT SPECIAL OLYMPICS RHODE ISLAND AND SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA AT THE 2023 SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUMMER WORLD GAMES IN BERLIN, GERMANY

Introduced By: Representatives Caldwell, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Craven, Chippendale, Solomon, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, and Cruz

Date Introduced: May 25, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Special Olympics was founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and
2 today is the world's largest sports organization for people with intellectual disabilities. Currently,
3 172 countries and 5 million people take part in year-round activities and training programs, with
4 more than 100,000 events being held across the globe; and

5 WHEREAS, The Special Olympics World Games host Summer and Winter games in
6 two-year cycles, with each occurring every four years. The 2023 World Games will be held in
7 Berlin, Germany, over an eight-day period from June 17 to June 25, 2023. It is expected that
8 approximately 7,000 athletes from about 170 countries will compete in 24 sports, with 3,000
9 coaches and 20,000 volunteers also attending; and

10 WHEREAS, Brian "Bri" Johnson, who will represent Rhode Island and Special Olympics
11 USA at the 2023 Special Olympics Summer World Games, is a member of the Warwick team and
12 lives in East Greenwich. He is the son of Ray and Jane Johnson; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is a stellar athlete who has been active with the Special
14 Olympics for fourteen years. He has participated in numerous sports including basketball, bocce,
15 bowling, cycling, flag football, and volleyball, and will be competing in bocce at the World
16 Summer Games; and

17 WHEREAS, Thanks to the Special Olympics, Mr. Johnson has made many new friends,
18 and has learned all about the important value of sportsmanship. In 2014, he competed in the
19 Special Olympics USA Games in Volleyball and helped his team to win the Gold Medal; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is employed at the Market Basket grocery store in Warwick, is
2 an advocate for inclusion in the workplace, and has proudly shared the impact and value of his
3 Special Olympics experiences with others. His hobbies include making YouTube videos, painting
4 rocks, and cheering for his favorite team, the New York Giants. Being a participant at the 2023
5 Special Olympics Summer World Games is an incredible achievement, one that Mr. Johnson
6 should be proud of attaining and all Rhode Islanders will be heartily cheering him on at the
7 Games; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
9 congratulates Brian Johnson on being chosen to represent Special Olympics Rhode Island and
10 Special Olympics USA at the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, and wish him
11 continued success in all of his athletic and life endeavors; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Brian Johnson.

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