

No. R-409. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2014 Vermont Jr Iron Chef culinary competition winners.

(H.C.R.299)

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Shoreham, Bartholomew of Hartland, Bissonnette of Winooski, Buxton of Tunbridge, Christie of Hartford, Connor of Fairfield, Cross of Winooski, Dakin of Chester, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Ellis of Waterbury, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Higley of Lowell, Hoyt of Norwich, Hubert of Milton, Jewett of Ripton, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lenex of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCarthy of St. Albans City, Michelsen of Hardwick, Moran of Wardsboro, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Pugh of South Burlington, Ralston of Middlebury, Ryerson of Randolph, Smith of New Haven, Sweaney of Windsor, Toleno of Brattleboro, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Turner of Milton, Webb of Shelburne, Woodward of Johnson, Yantachka of Charlotte, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, the Vermont Jr Iron Chef cooking competition, a collaboration between the Burlington School Food Project and Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT-FEED), was started in 2008 “to empower Vermont students to develop healthy eating habits through the use of whole local foods,” and

Whereas, this year, 270 middle and high school students from 55 schools and organized into 62 teams began to prepare in September 2013, and

Whereas, a team learns basic cooking techniques, studies local foods, and, after selecting a recipe, practices cooking its meal an average of six times before preparing it for actual competition, and

Whereas, the culmination of this hard work was the championship event held on March 22, 2014 at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, and

Whereas, teams competed in two heats for the following three categories: Mise en Place (best teamwork, order, and professionalism), Lively Local (best highlighting of Vermont foods), and Crowd Pleaser (best incorporation of color, texture, and taste), and

Whereas, the middle school team winners were: for Mise en Place, the St. Albans Town Center Wildcat Chefs and Milton Middle School Chef Jackets; for Lively Local, the Twin Valley Middle School Country Girls and Hartland Elementary School Wildcats; and for Crowd Pleaser, the Sharon Elementary School Shredders and Lamoille Union Middle School Culinary Lancers, and

Whereas, the high school winners included: for Mise en Place, the South Burlington High School Rebel Chefs and Leland & Gray Union High School Rebel Amigas; for Lively Local, the Middlebury Union High School Bean Queens and Whitcomb Jr./Sr. High School Hornets; and for Crowd Pleaser, the Champlain Valley Union High School Chefhawks and Winooski High School The 3 Spartaneers, and

Whereas, over the years, the Jr Iron Chef competitors have developed tasty and original recipes relying on local and seasonal ingredients that have inspired changes to local school menus, and

Whereas, representatives of selected winning teams have traveled to Montpelier today and will be demonstrating their culinary talents in the State House cafeteria, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2014 Vermont Jr Iron Chef culinary competition winners, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the winning teams.