

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION congratulating the Brown County Junior High School "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" teams.

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**STEELE**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

## SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION congratulating the Brown  
2           County Junior High School "We the People: The Citizen and  
3           the Constitution" teams.

4           *Whereas, The "We the People: The Citizens and the*  
5           *Constitution" program was developed by the Center for Civic*  
6           *Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education,*  
7           *pursuant to an act of Congress, with a goal of promoting civic*  
8           *responsibility and competence in students;*

9           *Whereas, Fifty state coordinators and a coordinator in*  
10          *each of the 435 congressional districts, the District of*  
11          *Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the*  
12          *Virgin Islands administer the program;*

13          *Whereas, Students in grades 4 through 12 participate in the*  
14          *program;*

15          *Whereas, In addition to their regular school curriculum,*  
16          *the students are given a course on the history and principles of*  
17          *democracy in the United States, with a test being administered*  
18          *at the conclusion of the lessons;*

2014

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1           *Whereas, Elementary and middle school hearings are not*  
2 *competitive; high school students and their teachers may select*  
3 *the noncompetitive hearing or the annual competition;*

4           *Whereas, Each competing class is divided into six teams,*  
5 *one team for each of the six units in the high school textbook;*

6           *Whereas, Judges score each team, using criteria that*  
7 *include understanding, constitutional application, reasoning,*  
8 *use of supporting evidence, responsiveness, and participation;*

9           *Whereas, Previously, a state title was the highest*  
10 *achievement at the middle school level; however, 2013 marked*  
11 *the inaugural We the People Middle School National Finals*  
12 *held on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax,*  
13 *Virginia;*

14           *Whereas, On May 6, 2013, the 2012-2013 Brown County*  
15 *Junior High School Team won the National Invitational*  
16 *competition;*

17           *Whereas, The National Invitational takes the form of*  
18 *simulated congressional hearings, during which groups of*  
19 *students testify as constitutional experts before panels of judges*  
20 *acting as congressional committees, scoring the groups through*  
21 *a performance-based assessment;*

22           *Whereas, Each hearing begins with a four minute opening*  
23 *statement by students, and is followed by a six minute period of*  
24 *follow-up questioning, during which judges examine students'*  
25 *knowledge, understanding, and ability to apply constitutional*  
26 *principles;*

27           *Whereas, On December 17 at the Crowne Plaza Union*  
28 *Station in Indianapolis, Brown County Junior High School*  
29 *defeated 11 other schools from around the state to secure the*  
30 *title of State Champions for the fourth consecutive year in the*  
31 *"We the People" competition;*



1           *Whereas, On April 4 through 8, 2014, the team will*  
 2           *represent its community and state in the second annual "We the*  
 3           *People" Middle School National Invitational at George Mason*  
 4           *University in Fairfax, Virginia; and*

5           *Whereas, Involvement with the "We the People: The Citizen*  
 6           *and the Constitution" competition allows students to develop a*  
 7           *greater understanding of democratic principles, and prepare*  
 8           *Indiana youth for a future that will encourage their knowledge*  
 9           *of and participation in our democratic system of government:*  
 10          *Therefore,*

11                                   *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
 12                                   *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

13           SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate congratulates the Brown  
 14           County Junior High School "We the People: The Citizen and the  
 15           Constitution" teams and wishes the team members continued success  
 16           in all their future endeavors.

17           SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to  
 18           transmit copies of this Resolution to 2012-2013 team members Victoria  
 19           Nicole Akles, Will Remington Austin, Sarah E. Barrick, Andrew  
 20           Kenneth Burkner, Joshua Matthew Cochran, Cameron Alexander  
 21           Flesher, Michael David Hess, Elisabeth Meta Huls, Elizabeth Mae  
 22           Jenson, Victoria Jane Kelp, Sean Nicholas Lopes, Baylee Jacob Mosier,  
 23           Cash William Myers, Monica Shea Percifield, Wylie Izora Poling,  
 24           Bailee C. Robison, James Noah Seidle, Abigail Rose Shaffer, Ryanne  
 25           Danielle Smith, Molly Jo Snyder, August Spiegel, Eleanor Elly Grace  
 26           Wertz, and 2013-2014 team members Autumn Anna-Neanine Bryant,  
 27           Lauren Mari Burkner, Corinna Rae Cagle, Jordan Allen Dolph, Allison  
 28           Morgan Drew, Story Lee-An Ellis, Adriana Jade Fonseca, Solei  
 29           Charizma Garland, Kaiden Matthew Hinds, Emma Renee Hoskins,  
 30           Grace Ann Jackson, Alivia Louise Johnson, Grace Nucle Lee, Kathleen  
 31           Rose McCann, Hallee Briell Miller, Elizabeth May Moore, Abraham  
 32           James Oliver, Faith Nicole Parry, Lane Scott Rice, Taylor Makaya Jade  
 33           Roberts, Wesley William Ryan, Ezra James Scully, Kaitlyn Michele  
 34           Spires, Leah Marie Tucker, Benjamin Tyler Wildman, and coach  
 35           Michael Potts.

