

**No. R-156. House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the 4th annual Jr. Iron Chef VT competition.**

(H.C.R.108)

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Shoreham, Head of South Burlington, Koch of Barre Town, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Manwaring of Wilmington, McFaun of Barre Town, Moran of Wardsboro, Munger of South Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington and Taylor of Barre City

Whereas, farm-to-school programs promote the Vermont agricultural economy and instill in students the importance of healthy diets, and

Whereas, the concepts underlying farm-to-school are the cornerstone of the Jr. Iron Chef competition whose 4th annual edition took place on Saturday, March 26, 2011, at the Champlain Valley Exposition Center in Essex Junction with Vermont Food Education Every Day (VT FEED) and the Burlington School Food Project serving as the cohosts, and

Whereas, 55 student teams of aspiring young culinary masters were instructed to create in just 90 minutes the best school food dish featuring local ingredients, and

Whereas, to add to the excitement and intensity of the event, over 1,000 spectators were observing the student chefs in action as was a highly selective and astute panel of judges, consisting of farmers, legislators, food service directors, teachers, and Armando Vilaseca, commissioner of education, and

Whereas, when the permitted cooking time had expired, the judges had the pleasure of examining and sampling each entry, and

Whereas, the three teams of middle school winners and their delicious creations included: *Best in Show*: Team Murdock (Twin Valley Middle School–Jake Cassese, DJ Lazelle, Kyle Murdock, and Nick Nilsen), Dried Cherry, Root Vegetable Chili with Potato Pancake); *Most Creative Dish*: Barre City Chefs (Barre City Middle School–Elysia Manriquez, Libby Nyquist, Bryana Owens, and Paige Whittemore), Grilled Vermont Root Veggie Cakes; and *Greatest Number and Best Use of Local Ingredients*: Barre Town Bobcats (Barre Town Middle School–Colin Aylward, Spencer Fewer, Duncan Lord, and Eric Tucker), “Save the Hen” Nuggets with Nature’s Best BBQ Sauce, and

Whereas, their high school counterparts whipped up equally enticing winning entrees, including: *Best in Show*: Hakuna Matata (Twin Valley High School–Stevie Cunningham-Darrah, Shannon Lozito, and Chelsea Schneider), Empanadas; *Most Creative Dish*: Food Fighters (Centerpoint School in South Burlington–Mike Clarke, Thressa Gilmond, Blake Stanyon, Ryan Steenland, and Devin Warner), Blue Mash with Roots and Rings; and *Greatest Number and Best Use of Local Ingredients*: Rebel Chefs (South Burlington High School–Maraika Lumholdt, Sara Ruch, Zoe Hulce, Meghan Boucher, Courtney Wright, and Courtney Banach), Veggie Chili with Cornbread Topping, and

Whereas, each of these honored teams demonstrated ingenuity and effective time management in winning special recognition, but all of the participants in the Jr. Iron Chef VT competition gained a better understanding of Vermont

agricultural products and their use in preparing healthy food, now  
therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winning teams at the 4th  
annual Jr. Iron Chef VT competition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this  
resolution to each of the team winners and to VT FEED.