

No. R-158. House concurrent resolution congratulating Rutland High School for earning placement on the first ESPN Honor Roll, in recognition of the school's outstanding Special Olympics Unified Sports program.

(H.C.R.132)

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Cupoli of Rutland City, Howard of Rutland City, Notte of Rutland City, Terenzini of Rutland Town, and Harrison of Chittenden

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Hooker, and McNeil

Whereas, Special Olympics Unified Sports teams consist of students both with and without intellectual disabilities, and

Whereas, at Rutland High School, Unified Sports teams exist in three sports: basketball, bowling, and soccer, and

Whereas, nationally, more than 6,000 schools are home to Special Olympics Unified Sports Teams, and these teams instill in their participants a deep sense of pride, and

Whereas, Special Olympics had previously designated Rutland High School as a National Banner Unified Champion school, a recognition reserved for schools that “demonstrate full inclusion in their school community, primarily through Unified Sports, full school engagement and youth leadership,” and

Whereas, the Rutland High School community was pleased to receive a Banner School designation, and the school is now the proud recipient of an even more prestigious award, and

Whereas, the sports television network ESPN, in collaboration with Special Olympics, awarded 30 of the 6,000 Unified Sports Schools, all of which had already earned National Banner Unified Champion school designation, a new, more exalted status as ESPN Honor Roll schools, and

Whereas, to be granted this accolade, Rutland High School was required to be at the forefront of a commitment to inclusion, and

Whereas, Rutland High School held a special assembly to celebrate this unique moment in the school's athletic history and is greatly honored to have been named to the first ESPN Honor Roll, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Rutland High School for earning placement on the first ESPN Honor Roll, in recognition of the school's outstanding Special Olympics Unified Sports program, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Rutland High School.