

No. R-177. House concurrent resolution congratulating the St. Francis Xavier of Winooski boys' basketball team on winning the 2011 New England Catholic Youth Organization seventh- and eighth-grade parish division championship.

(H.C.R.143)

Offered by: Representatives Bissonnette of Winooski and Atkins of Winooski

Whereas, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball provides youngsters a great opportunity to enjoy athletic competition while learning the importance of team cooperation and good sportsmanship, and

Whereas, the 2010–2011 St. Francis Xavier of Winooski seventh- and eighth-grade boys' basketball team will be remembered as an especially talented squad of young players that ascended to a regional championship plateau which no other seventh- and eighth-grade boys' CYO basketball squad in Vermont had reached since 1968, and

Whereas, the St. Francis Xavier boys brought their undefeated winning streak to the parish division championship game and left the court triumphantly, and

Whereas, winning the Vermont title enabled the St. Francis Xavier boys to proceed to the New England regional CYO basketball tournament played during the first weekend of April in Manchester, New Hampshire, and

Whereas, in the first contest against Sacred Heart of Hartford, Connecticut, St. Francis Xavier scored a stunning 62–37 victory, and although the team's second opponent, St. Vincent of Boston was a much stronger team, the Vermonters held their own, defeating the boys from Massachusetts 57–44, and

Whereas, having earned the right to play in the championship game, the St. Francis Xavier boys faced the hometown team from St. Pius X in Manchester, but the Vermonters' skillful and strategic playing was superior, as St. Francis Xavier won this decisive game 47–37 along with the 2011 New England CYO boys' seventh- and eighth-grade parish division basketball title, and

Whereas, St. Francis Xavier team members Cody Greene, Nate Miles, RJ Dunning, Eli DiGrande, Ben Shungu, James Wells, Hunter Robare, Connor Drown, Arnold Vainqueur, Jamal Alkarawi, Connor Beard, and Nghia Duong impressed all of the spectators, and coaches Jeff Brosseau, Ted DiGrande, and Rob Miles were major contributors to the boys' success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulate the St. Francis Xavier of Winooski boys' basketball team on winning the 2011 New England Catholic Youth Organization seventh- and eighth-grade parish division championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jeff Brosseau in Winooski.