

No. R-194. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 Division I St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers boys' basketball team.

(H.C.R.161)

Offered by: Representatives Beck of St. Johnsbury, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Seymour of Sutton, Toll of Danville, Martel of Waterford, and Quimby of Concord

Offered by: Senators Kitchel and Benning

Whereas, the 2019 St. Johnsbury Hilltoppers boys' basketball team proved that, initial indications to the contrary, they were a focused and talented group of athletes, and

Whereas, the Hilltoppers were seeded fifth for the playoffs, a ranking that has produced only two prior Division I boys' basketball champions, and

Whereas, once the playoffs started, St. Johnsbury boldly announced its presence, defeating the top-seeded Rice Memorial High School Green Knights en route to a berth in the championship game against the third-seeded Rutland High School Raiders, and

Whereas, at the University of Vermont's Patrick Gymnasium, the Hilltoppers' halftime 4-point deficit was deceiving, as they persisted, gaining a 43-42 fourth-quarter lead that developed into a 54-50 Division I championship game victory, the Hilltopper's first since 1997, over the Rutland Raiders, and

Whereas, the persevering Hilltoppers were Trey Alercio, Nick Guckin, Alex Carlisle, Austin Fenoff, Carter Hilliker, Brian Lamar, Logan Wendell, Andrew Cowan, Noah Sorin, Dylon Bunnell, and Asom Hayman-Jones, and

Whereas, Head Coach David McGinn, Assistant Coach David Hale, and student manager Jahla Kimball each played a significant role in the Hilltoppers' victory, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2019 Division I St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers boys' basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.