

**No. R-367. House concurrent resolution congratulating Hannah Kearney on winning the 2010 women's skiing moguls Olympic gold medal.**

(H.C.R.269)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, in a thrilling moment in the history of women's Olympic moguls skiing, 23-year-old Hannah Kearney of Norwich, a 2004 Hanover High School graduate, fulfilled her dream of becoming an Olympic gold medalist as she sped and jumped her way to a stupendous victory through fog, rain, and sleet down the 827-foot moguls course at Cypress Mountain near Vancouver, British Columbia, and

Whereas, this triumph was the product of nearly two decades of training and grueling practice that started at the age of six, and

Whereas, by the age of 12, Hannah Kearney was a top-level regional skier, and she became a national competitor the following year, and

Whereas, 2002 was an eventful year in her budding moguls-skiing career as Hannah Kearney won not only the eastern and junior national moguls crowns, but even more impressively, she clinched the duals and moguls gold medals at the Junior World Championship, and in the following year, exuding great confidence, she repeated her 2002 accomplishments, and

Whereas, proceeding fully into adult moguls competition, at age 19 she won the prestigious women's moguls world championship title, and

Whereas, although Hannah Kearney earned a coveted spot on the 2006 United States Winter Olympics team, her 22nd-place performance was personally disappointing, but this daughter of Norwich recreation director Jill Kearney and local carpenter Tom Kearney was not easily deterred, and

Whereas, the path to Cypress Mountain was laden with dangerous obstacles as Hannah Kearney had sustained multiple injuries since 2006, and

Whereas, in order to overcome her injuries, she battled back with unbelievable stamina, completing 1,000 jumps into the Lake Placid water pit and then spending six weeks in intensive snow training, and

Whereas, her efforts were rewarded with a berth on our nation's 2010 Olympic team as she won the U.S. trials, and then she sharpened her competitive edge with a victory in a World Cup event, and

Whereas, Hannah Kearney completed the qualifying round at Cypress Mountain in first place slightly ahead of her nearest rival, Canadian Jennifer Heil, and

Whereas, after her final run, Jennifer Heil was momentarily in the lead with 25.69 points, but Hannah Kearney immediately responded with her own powerful final run, a tightly controlled performance punctuated with perfect jumps that so impressed the judges they immediately awarded Hannah Kearney sufficient points to bring her total score to 26.63 points and assure that she would bring the 2010 women's moguls gold medal home to Vermont, and

Whereas, in celebration, she triumphantly danced around the finish area bedecked with an American flag, joyously accepting congratulatory good wishes including those of her extremely proud parents, and she has earned her place among the elite of American winter Olympians, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Hannah Kearney on winning the 2010 women's skiing moguls Olympic gold medal, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Hannah Kearney in Norwich.