

2023 -- H 6146

LC000295

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE SMITHFIELD SENTINELS ON COMPILING A PERFECT SEASON AND WINNING THE DIVISION IV FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Representatives Rea, Costantino, Chippendale, Blazejewski, Newberry, Quattrocchi, Roberts, Kennedy, Shallcross Smith, and Ajello

Date Introduced: March 09, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Smithfield Sentinels put together one of the greatest seasons in Rhode
2 Island High School football history in 2022, finishing 11-0, winning the State Title, and
3 outscoring the opposition during the season by an incredible 184 points, scoring 268 points and
4 only yielding 84 points; and

5 WHEREAS, The Sentinels came a long way in 2022 from their humble beginnings as
6 Freshmen who had never played together and, did not win a single game. These young athletes
7 had to endure a difficult 2020 spring season, observing COVID protocols and wearing masks on
8 the field. In 2021, while still following the mask protocols, they improved to finish 6-6 and
9 clearly became a squad to be reckoned with in 2022; and

10 WHEREAS, In their dominating 2022 season, Smithfield finished first in the Division IV
11 Football Standings and earned a one seed in the Playoffs. In the first round game, the Sentinels
12 found themselves in a deep hole, losing 13-0 to Exeter/West Greenwich/Prout. However,
13 champions always seem to find a way to climb back from adversity and the Sentinels were not to
14 be denied, scoring 23 points in a row thanks to the outstanding play of quarterback Joey Smith,
15 the tough running provided by running backs Ryan Flynn and A.J. Hetu, some big catches
16 provided by receivers Chris Currie and Gavin Trust, and a defense that stiffened after a slow start
17 and shut out the opposition the rest of the way; and

18 WHEREAS, In the Championship game, Smithfield faced off against arch-rival Central
19 Falls/Blackstone Valley Prep, a team that only had one loss going into the title game. In a hard-

1 hitting and closely fought game that was tied at halftime, the Sentinels emerged victorious 18-6
2 thanks to a pick 6 interception by A.J. Hetu and a dazzling performance by Running Back Ryan
3 Flynn, the Most Valuable Player of the game; and

4 WHEREAS, Winning a State Championship in a team sport is a difficult achievement
5 that can only happen if every player on the team gives their all and is exclusively focused on team
6 goals rather than individual aspirations. The Smithfield sentinels had those qualities in abundance
7 in 2022, thanks to the important contributions provided by Joey Smith, Michael Villandry, James
8 Norberg, Albert Hetu, Currie Christopher, Jordan Hurst, Marc St. Martin, Aaron Archambault,
9 Christopher Gliottone, Jesse Garneau, Gavin Trost, Cody Trost, Curtis Ruotolo, John Fabiano,
10 Drew Buteau, Sawyer Powell, Chukwuemeka Ezeama, Noah Isble, Ryan Flynn, Lucas Bilotti,
11 Gennaro Ursillo, Josh Gallagher, Eric Basile, Zachary Sweet, Connor Fochler, Gavin Cafferty,
12 Bradyn Shadoian, Jake Gulino, Sean Trainor, Kenneth Gonzalez, Ryan Fitzpatrick, Jacob
13 Petrucci, Ralph Farrar, Trevor Morgan, Seth Borges, Nathan Hall, Donato Sparadeo, Ray Porter,
14 Anthony Costanzo, Nicholas Costanzo, Benjamin Cicchitelli, Joseph Sala, Lily Ford, Phillip
15 DiPaolo, Garrett Moroni, Giovanni Rea, Lex Tremblay, Alex Henson, Nathan Chaput, Nathan
16 Dorsey, Nicholas Cichon, Ryan Gendron, Jack Menard, Joseph O'Keefe, Shane Trainor, and
17 Nicholas Collins. The Sentinels also benefitted all season from the outstanding coaching and
18 leadership provided by Head Coach Glenn Castiglia, Assistant Coaches Jim Connell, Kyle Purvis,
19 Zackery Ortega, Aaron Brown-Smith and Lorenzo Garcia; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
21 heartily congratulates the Smithfield Sentinels Football Team on winning the Rhode Island
22 Division IV Football Championship; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
24 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Smithfield Head Football Coach Glenn
25 Castiglia.

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