

**2013 -- H 5926**

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LC02221  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013**

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**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
ABANDON ITS PLAN TO CUT WRESTLING FROM THE 2020 SUMMER OLYMPIC  
GAMES**

Introduced By: Representatives Guthrie, Johnston, Tomasso, Edwards, and Finn

Date Introduced: March 26, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, In a decision that stunned both the wrestling and sports communities  
2 worldwide, the International Olympic Committee’s Executive Board has decided to eliminate  
3 wrestling from the 2020 Olympic Summer Games; and

4           WHEREAS, Wrestling was one of the founding sports of both the ancient Olympic  
5 Games and the modern Olympic Games. Wrestling was first introduced in the ancient Olympic  
6 Games in 708 B.C. When the modern Olympic Games resumed in 1896, wrestling was one of the  
7 sports played in competition and has been a permanent part of the Summer Olympic Games since  
8 1904. Wrestling is a pure sport and a sport with deep roots and a passionate following across the  
9 globe; and

10           WHEREAS, Wrestling has been an indelible part of the Olympic Games. Who can forget  
11 such thrilling and miraculous moments such as the “Miracle on the Mat” at the 2000 Summer  
12 Olympics in Sydney, Australia, when American Wrestler Rulon Gardner stunned the world and  
13 defeated famed Russian Wrestler Alexander Karelin, a wrestler who, up to that point, had not lost  
14 a match in thirteen years and had not lost a point in a match in six years. If the International  
15 Olympic Committee does not reverse its ill-advised decision, moments like that will never happen  
16 again; now, therefore be it

17           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
18 Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests that the International Olympic Committee  
19 abandons its decision to cut wrestling from the 2020 Summer Olympic Games; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
2 transmit duly certified copies of this Resolution to President Barack Obama, the Leaders of the  
3 United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and the President of the  
4 International Olympic Committee, Count Jacques Rogge.

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