

2014 -- H 7134

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LC003554  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING MARISSA CASTELLI AND HER SKATING PARTNER, SIMON SHNAPIR, FOR QUALIFYING FOR THE UNITED STATES WINTER OLYMPICS PAIRS FIGURE SKATING TEAM AND REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES AT THE 2014 WINTER OLYMPICS IN SOCHI, RUSSIA

Introduced By: Representatives Ucci, Winfield, Costantino, Mattiello, and Chippendale

Date Introduced: January 16, 2014

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, Marissa Castelli, born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1990, a graduate of  
2 Cranston West High School where she was an All-State Lacrosse player, received the joyous  
3 news on Sunday morning, January 12, 2014, that she and her skating partner, Simon Shnapir, had  
4 qualified to represent the United States at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, in the pairs  
5 figure skating competition; and

6           WHEREAS, Marissa Castelli and her skating partner Simon Shnapir, are the two-time  
7 defending United States Pairs Figure Skating Champions, winning Gold Medals at the 2013  
8 Championship in Omaha, Nebraska and at the 2014 Championship in Boston, Massachusetts.  
9 After their breakthrough win in 2013, Marissa and Simon proved they were a force to be  
10 reckoned with in pairs skating when they repeated as champions in 2014. Their performance in  
11 the short program, the best of their careers, staked them out to a commanding lead, a lead they  
12 would not relinquish; and

13           WHEREAS, Marissa and Simon have also performed well in prior international  
14 competitions. They won Bronze Medals at both the 2009 World Junior Figure Skating  
15 Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, and the 2013 Four Continent Figure Skating Championships in  
16 Osaka, Japan. At the latter championships they also helped the United States Figure Skating  
17 Team take the Team Gold Medal Championship; and

18           WHEREAS, Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir have been skating partners since June

1 of 2006 and their more than seven years of hard training, diligent practicing, endless hours on the  
2 ice, and more hours brainstorming and planning their programs, has all paid off for them. Marissa  
3 Castelli will be representing her country, the City of Cranston, the State of Rhode Island, and the  
4 Skating Club of Boston at the 2014 Winter Olympics, and her skating partner Simon Shnapir will  
5 be returning to his birth country at the Winter Olympics, as he was born in Moscow and lived  
6 there for over a year before moving to Sudbury, Massachusetts; now, therefore be it

7           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
8 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates Marissa Castelli and her skating partner Simon  
9 Shnapir for qualifying for the United States Winter Olympics Pairs Figure Skating Team and  
10 representing the United States at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia; and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir.

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