HLS 14RS-5526 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Jalen Scott on being named the Grand Prize winner of the Golden Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad and receiving the Wangari Maathai Special Award

A RESOLUTION

2	To commend Jalen Scott of Baton Rouge on traveling to Nairobi, Kenya, to win the Grand
3	Prize in the Golden Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad, the
4	Wangari Maathai Special Award.
5	WHEREAS, Jalen Scott is an eight grade student at Kennilworth Science and
6	Technology Charter School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and
7	WHEREAS, for a science fair project in 2013, Jalen Scott used a hand-held X-ray
8	spectrometer provided by LSU Associate Professor David Weindorf to conduct scientific
9	research on the amount of lead in the soil at eleven school playgrounds in the Baton Rouge
10	area; and
11	WHEREAS, his research revealed that at four of the eleven playgrounds, lead levels
12	exceeded United States Environmental Protection Agency screening limits; and
13	WHEREAS, the high quality of this research allowed Jason Scott, with the assistance
14	of LSU graduate students, to have his research published in the academic journal, Soil
15	Horizons; and
16	WHEREAS, this publication generated national attention for his research project and
17	Jalen Scott was invited to Washington, D.C., where he met with the United States Secretary
18	of Education, Arne Duncan, Senator Mary Landrieu, and Representative Bill Cassidy; and
19	WHEREAS, Jalen Scott was then selected as the only United States finalist to
20	participate in the Golden Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad in Nairobi,
21	Kenya, a contest which included one hundred thirty-five student competitors from thirty-one
22	countries; and

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1	WHEREAS, the Golden Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad is
2	a science competition for primary and high school students which promotes a global
3	understanding of environmental issues and offers students challenges and opportunities for
4	future participation in efforts at discovery of solutions for environmental sustainability; and
5	WHEREAS, the Wangari Maathai Special Award is named after environmentalist
6	Wangari Maathai who was the first female African to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize;
7	and
8	WHEREAS, Jalen Scott traveled to Nairobi, Kenya in May 2014, accompanied by
9	his father, Sherman Scott, and his science teacher, Elkhan Akhundov, to participate in the
10	Golden Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad and meet and engage with
11	students from around the world; and
12	WHEREAS, Jalen Scott of Baton Rouge was awarded the 2014 Grand Prize of the
13	Gold Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad, the Wangari Maathai Special
14	Award on May 2, 2014.
15	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jalen Scott for winning the 2014 Wangari
17	Maathai Special Award, the Grand Prize in the Gold Climate International Environmental
18	Project Olympiad.
19	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
20	to Jalen Scott.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Smith HR No. 179

Commends Jalen Scott for winning the 2014 Wangari Maathai Special Award which is the Grand Prize in the Gold Climate International Environmental Project Olympiad.