

2013-J4600

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Kaitlin Hawayek of East Aurora, New York, and her partner Jean-Luc Baker of Edmonds, Washington, upon the occasion of capturing the Gold Medal in Ice Dance at the International Skating Union World Junior Figure Skating Championships

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Kaitlin Hawayek of East Aurora, New York, and her partner Jean-Luc Baker of Edmonds, Washington, upon the occasion of capturing the Gold Medal in Ice Dance at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria on Friday, March 14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker competed against 179 of the best junior ice skaters from across the world to take the top prize at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships; in an outstanding performance, they upset the defending Grand Prix champions in the short dance round, and held off a strong challenge in free dance to win first place; and

WHEREAS, Utilizing their tremendous athleticism and grace, this remarkable pair executed difficult lifts and spins and were the only team to collect four out of five elements, winning the event with a personal best score of 157.12; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Jon and Kirstin Hawayek, Kaitlin Hawayek has

been skating since she was four years old; she has dedicated her life to training to be the best in her sport, spending countless hours practicing ballet, ballroom dancing, yoga, and other forms of strength and conditioning; and

WHEREAS, Focused on their goal of winning the Championship, Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker consistently displayed their work ethic and drive; they won the Silver Medal at the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final, and posted the highest placement for a team from the United States in five years; in addition, they won the title of United States Junior Dance Champions in January 2014; and

WHEREAS, Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker were loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker have clearly shown a spirit of excellence which is a hallmark of their team; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Kaitlin Hawayek and her partner Jean-Luc Baker upon the occasion of capturing the Gold Medal in Ice Dance at the International Skating Union World Junior Figure Skating Championships; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker.