HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF MAEMAE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S ROBOTICS TEAM, THE DOLPHINATORS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's educators are dedicated to exploring and developing innovative curricula for the benefit of their students; and

WHEREAS, one such innovative curriculum, science, technology, engineering, and math education, collectively known as STEM, is a key program in the Obama Administration's agenda to power American students to the top of international science and math achievement rankings over the next decade; and

WHEREAS, Scholastic Robotics is credited with building critical life skills in teamwork, problem solving, time management, and effective communication as well as generating interest in STEM; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii Scholastic Robotics first began in 1999 with McKinley and Waialua High Schools competing together at the 2000 For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Regional Robotics Competition in Silicon Valley, where they advanced to the Regional Finals and finished second in the forty-three team competition; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii now has elementary, middle, and high school level teams competing in six different national and international Scholastic Robotics programs including the FIRST Robotics Competition, FIRST LEGO League, VEX Robotics, Botball, Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicles, and Micro Robotics; and

WHEREAS, Maemae Elementary School's Robotics Team, The Dolphinators, utilized skills acquired through the STEM curriculum, such as engineering, critical thinking, and

teamwork, to build an autonomous robot made from LEGO elements; and

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WHEREAS, the students and teachers of The Dolphinators, Adriana Maroney, Taylor Fomion, Caleb Kurasaki, Beren Wong, Vance Tokuda, Kaedin Okimoto, Kolby Yamamoto, Christine Kotomori, and Suzanne Brauer, have demonstrated the virtues of hard work and perseverance while participating in the FIRST LEGO League; and

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WHEREAS, The Dolphinators are commended for winning first place in the Ninth Annual FIRST LEGO League State Championship and for earning the opportunity to represent Hawaii in the FIRST LEGO League World Tournament, where they will be competing against 85 teams from across the globe in St. Louis, Missouri; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that this body hereby recognizes and congratulates Maemae Elementary School's Robotics Team, The Dolphinators, for their outstanding achievements and extends to them its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in the FIRST LEGO League World Tournament.

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OFFERED BY: Jakashi Brun
MAR 1 1 2014