

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and celebrate the short track speedskating achievements of Nathaniel Casson, a local scholar-athlete born and raised in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, an excellent student, Nathaniel is a junior at School Without Walls where he has demonstrated extraordinary time management skills by successfully balancing the demands of an intensive speedskating training schedule with the rigor of his academic program;

WHEREAS, before joining the United Capital Blades Speedskating Club in 2015, Nathaniel's recreational base was the Ft. Dupont Ice Arena's DC-ICE Program, which fostered his budding interest in speedskating—an Olympic sport in which athletes race on a 111.1-meter track, reaching speeds of up to 40 mph. Now a seasoned skater, Nathaniel has volunteered with the DC-ICE summer camps to help local children learn to skate;

WHEREAS, Nathaniel currently trains year-round with the United Capital Blades Speedskating Club in Montgomery County, Maryland, attending three-hour practice sessions four times each week and cross training at home in the Cleveland Park neighborhood on all the other days of the week;

WHEREAS, Nathaniel's exceptional abilities have qualified him to compete at the highest-level U.S. short track speedskating competitions in the country, traveling as far as Salt Lake City, Utah to compete against the sport's top young talent;

WHEREAS, in March of 2019, Nathaniel became the 2019 U.S. National Silver Medalist for men ages 15-16, having competed in a field of nineteen skaters at the U.S. Age-Group Short Track Speedskating National Championships in Verona, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Nathaniel's silver medal is one of many accolades that he's received in the sport, including: placing first at the regional Heartland Competition at the University of Illinois Ice Arena, placing first in the Junior A/B men's category at the 2017 Buffalo Short Track Championships in Buffalo, New York, and winning the 2017 DC-ICE Skate-A-Thon by completing over 200 laps within an hour to raise money for his beloved DC-ICE community skating program;

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RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the “Nathaniel Casson Recognition Resolution of 2019.”

Sec. 2. The District of Columbia is proud of scholar-athlete Nathaniel Casson’s achievements in short track speedskating and will continue to support him throughout his short track speedskating career.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.