

2015 -- H 5272

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LC000939  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING ROBERT KRAFT, BILL BELICHICK AND HIS COACHING STAFF,  
AND THE ENTIRE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS TEAM AND ORGANIZATION ON  
WINNING SUPER BOWL XLIX

Introduced By: Representatives Marshall, Phillips, Keable, DeSimone, and Newberry

Date Introduced: February 03, 2015

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, The New England Patriots, a dominating fixture on the NFL scene since  
2 2001, have once again provided their loyal fans with a thrilling and incredibly successful season.  
3 Led by an explosive offense, a stingy defense, and a solid kicking game, the Patriots easily won  
4 the AFC East Division with an outstanding 12-4 record; and

5           WHEREAS, The Patriots were led on the field by their head coach, Bill Belichick, who  
6 has thus far compiled an NFL coaching record that easily rivals the greatest coaches in NFL  
7 history. In his fifteen seasons as the Patriots Head Coach, Belichick has led his team to six Super  
8 Bowls, winning four of them. He has taken the Patriots to the playoffs twelve times in a fifteen  
9 year period and has compiled a phenomenal regular season record of 175 wins and only 65 losses;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, The Patriots began their latest Super Bowl run by prevailing in their opening  
12 playoff game over a determined Baltimore Ravens squad by the score of 35-31 in a thrilling game  
13 that many experts have deemed to be one of the NFL's greatest playoff games of all-time. In  
14 winning that game, the Patriots became the first team in NFL playoff history to come back twice  
15 in one game from 14 point deficits. The Patriots' comebacks were led by the always cool, calm  
16 and collected Tom Brady, who completed 33 of 50 passes for 367 yards and threw his 46th career  
17 playoff touchdown pass, breaking Joe Montana's record of 45, for most in NFL history; and

18           WHEREAS, In the AFC Championship game, played in Foxboro, the New England  
19 Patriots put on a professional football clinic as they thrashed the Indianapolis Colts by the score

1 of 45 to 7 to earn a berth in the Super Bowl. Tom Brady once again played a superb playoff  
2 game, throwing three touchdown passes and completing 23 of 35 passes for 226 yards. The  
3 Patriots were also aided by a tough running game with most of the yardage being provided by  
4 running back LeGarrette Blount, who rushed for 148 yards, scored three touchdowns, and set a  
5 Patriots' franchise record with 30 rushing carries. Finally, New England's ferocious defense  
6 completely stifled the Colts offense and shut down their highly regarded quarterback, Andrew  
7 Luck; and

8 WHEREAS, In one of the greatest Super Bowl games ever played, the Patriots once  
9 again displayed a knack for coming from behind in high pressure situations. With his team down  
10 by 10 points to Seattle in the fourth quarter, Tom Brady twice led his offense on long touchdown  
11 scoring drives against a defense widely considered to be the best in the NFL and one of the best  
12 in NFL history. He was ably assisted by his sterling offensive line and some great plays made by  
13 wide receiver Julian Edelman and tight end Rob Gronkowski. Tom Brady's clutch performance  
14 under great duress earned him his third Super Bowl MVP Award and gave the Patriots their  
15 fourth Super Bowl victory in franchise history; and

16 WHEREAS, The Patriots' Super Bowl victory epitomized their "Play 60" and "next man  
17 up" philosophical approach to the game. Whether it is an underrated defense stopping the Seattle  
18 Seahawks offense when it had to, the team not panicking when falling behind, or having Malcolm  
19 Butler, an undrafted defensive back, make a crucial game-saving interception to clinch a Super  
20 Bowl victory, the Patriots have shown that professional football is a team game and that every  
21 single person on the team and staff is a vital component to their success; now, therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
23 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates the New England Patriots on winning Super Bowl  
24 XLIX. We congratulate Robert Kraft, Bill Belichick and the entire New England Patriots team  
25 and organization for their successful season and wish them continued success next season and  
26 beyond; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
28 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, and  
29 New England Patriots Head Coach Bill Belichick.

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