

Senate Resolution 938

By: Senators Anavitarte of the 31st, Bearden of the 30th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Anderson of the 24th, Burns of the 23rd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Cedartown High School Debate Team for winning the
2 2026 Parliamentary Debate World Competition; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Senate takes great pride in recognizing outstanding students
4 whose academic achievement, leadership, and dedication bring honor to their schools,
5 communities, and the State of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, Cedartown High School, located in Polk County within the 31st Senate District,
7 has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to academic excellence and student leadership;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Cedartown High School Debate Team represented the United States of
10 America in the 2026 Parliamentary Debate World Competition held in Kumagaya City,
11 Saitama Prefecture, Japan, from February 6 through February 8, 2026; and

12 WHEREAS, the competition included ten distinguished teams representing six countries:
13 Japan, Hungary, Mongolia, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, competing against elite international teams, Armando Penaloza, Anna Vainrib,
15 and Ande Kate Roper demonstrated exceptional research, analytical reasoning, persuasive
16 advocacy, and teamwork; and

17 WHEREAS, the Cedartown High School Debate Team achieved a perfect record of six wins
18 and zero losses, advancing undefeated through all rounds of competition; and

19 WHEREAS, on February 8, 2026, the team prevailed in the championship finals against
20 Hungary to earn First Place Overall, bringing international distinction and honor to
21 Cedartown High School, the Polk School District, Polk County, the 31st Senate District, and
22 the entire State of Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, this historic accomplishment reflects not only individual excellence but also the
24 strength of public education and community support within Polk County; and

25 WHEREAS, this remarkable achievement was guided by the dedicated mentorship and
26 leadership of Mrs. Jennifer Cupp, advisor and coach, whose commitment to academic
27 excellence and student development was instrumental in securing this world championship;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, the encouragement, sacrifice, and unwavering support of the families of these
30 students played a vital role in this achievement and deserve recognition and gratitude from
31 this body.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 commend and congratulate the Cedartown High School Debate Team—Armando Penaloza,

34 Anna Vainrib, and Ande Kate Roper—and their advisor, Mrs. Jennifer Cupp, upon winning
35 First Place Overall at the 2026 Parliamentary Debate World Competition.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body extend their gratitude to the
37 families of these students in honor of their steadfast support, encouragement, and
38 commitment to excellence, all of which contributed to this distinguished accomplishment.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Cedartown High
41 School, the Polk School District, the members of the team, their coach, and their families.