

*Below are the remarks that Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy will read to the United States House of Representatives on January 18, 2012:*

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Blake Smith, a senior at Oceanside High School, and the fourth –place winner of the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology. Blake, a grandson of cancer survivors, researched a project that could help doctors shrink lung-cancer tumors. He is the first Siemens finalist from Oceanside High School.

More than 2,000 projects were entered into the competition this year, and 12 projects- 6 individual and 6 team projects- were selected as national finalist. Mr. Smith’s project, “Using novel small molecule derivatives to therapeutically modulate erlotinib-resisant lung adenocarcinoma” studied how modified anti –psychotic drugs could be used to treat cancer. Smith and his partner spent two summers working on the project at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York City.

The future of this country depends on the hopes and dreams of its children. Our communities, and our nation, are enhanced by the contributions of students like Blake Smith. Additionally, I would like to recognize the work of the teachers and administrators at Oceanside High School who dedicate their lives to their students. The staff is the backbone of the student’s success and I thank them for all that they do on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my thanks and recognition to Blake Smith.