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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 443

Offered February 25, 2000

Commending Michael D. Vick.

Patrons—Diamonstein, Abbitt, Amundson, Armstrong, Barlow, Baskerville, Bennett, Blevins, Bloxom, Bolvin, Brink, Broman, Callahan, Cantor, Christian, Clement, Councill, Cranwell, Crittenden, Darner, Davis, Day, DeBoer, Deeds, Dickinson, Drake, Dudley, Grayson, Griffith, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Harris, Howell, Hull, Ingram, Jackson, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, J.C., Jones, S.C., Keister, Kilgore, Landes, Larrabee, Louderback, May, McDonnell, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Moran, Morgan, Moss, Parrish, Phillips, Plum, Pollard, Purkey, Putney, Reid, Rhodes, Robinson, Rollison, Rust, Scott, Shuler, Spruill, Stump, Suit, Tata, Tate, Thomas, Van Landingham, Van Yahres, Wagner, Wardrup, Ware, Watts, Williams and Woodrum

WHEREAS, Michael D. Vick, a freshman quarterback for the Virginia Tech football team, led the 1999 Hokies to unparalleled success; and

WHEREAS, a 1998 graduate of Warwick High School in Newport News, where he excelled on the athletic field, Michael Vick achieved an unprecedented ranking among college football's elite players; and

WHEREAS, in leading the Hokies to an undefeated regular season, a place in the national championship game in the Sugar Bowl, and a No. 2 national ranking in the final polls, Michael Vick won the hearts of Virginia Tech football fans and captured the attention of the nation; and

WHEREAS, an exciting player blessed with athleticism and amazing grace under pressure, Michael Vick made the play of the 1999 season against West Virginia University to escape what seemed to be certain defeat and rescued the Hokies' historic season; and

WHEREAS, following the season, Michael Vick was named Big East Conference Rookie of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year, the first player ever to receive both awards in the same year; and

WHEREAS, in the voting for the prestigious Heisman Trophy, Michael Vick placed third, the highest finish ever for a freshman athlete; and

WHEREAS, at the ESPY Awards, sponsored by ESPN, Michael Vick was named Football Player of the Year for 1999; and

WHEREAS, in the glare of national publicity, Michael Vick has consistently exhibited poise, perspective, courtesy, and maturity that belie his relative youth and bring great credit to his family, Virginia Tech, and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Michael D. Vick on his outstanding performance during the 1999 college football season; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael D. Vick as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his brilliance as a football player, as a student-athlete, and as a representative of the Commonwealth.

ENGROSSED

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