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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 119

Offered January 11, 2002

*Commending Stonewall Jackson High School.*

Patrons—Colgan, Barry and Chichester; Delegates: Lingamfelter, Marshall, R.G., McQuigg, Parrish and Rollison

WHEREAS, Stonewall Jackson High School in Prince William County has been recognized as the 2001 High School of the Year by *Time* magazine; and

WHEREAS, a hallmark of Stonewall Jackson High School's success has been increased parental interest and involvement in the students' educational, athletic, and social experiences; and

WHEREAS, many Stonewall Jackson parents are part of two-career families and often face long commutes and demanding jobs; and

WHEREAS, Stonewall Jackson has instituted a number of innovative programs to enhance parental involvement, most notably a voice-mail and website system called ParentLink, through which parents can learn about their child's grades, homework, attendance, and each day's lessons; and

WHEREAS, Stonewall Jackson parents are also encouraged to use the school's resources and facilities in the evenings, and many of the school's programs have been changed to better accommodate busy parents' schedules; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these and other initiatives, Stonewall Jackson's parental approval scores have soared, average SAT scores by Stonewall Jackson students have risen by 61 points, and the school's dropout rate has fallen from 11 percent to three percent; and

WHEREAS, Stonewall Jackson High School, one of 305 nationwide to offer the International Baccalaureate degree, has clearly arrived as one of the finest public high schools in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Stonewall Jackson High School on its national recognition as High School of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Steven M. Constantino, principal of Stonewall Jackson High School, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on this outstanding achievement.

ENGROSSED

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