

## 2004 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 218

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 14, 2004

*Commending Sean Burch.*

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Patron—Reese

WHEREAS, Sean Burch, a world-class mountaineer and native Virginian, was born in Fairfax in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Sean Burch attended Oakton High School of Fairfax County Schools and received his bachelor's degree from Roanoke College in 1992; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating an extraordinary commitment to athletic training and endurance fitness, Sean Burch climbed Mount Shishapangma of Tibet in May 2001, the thirteenth highest mountain peak in the world at 25,552 feet, and Mount Aconcagua of Argentina in 2002, the highest mountain peak in the Southern Hemisphere at 22,841 feet; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 Fairfax County School students were inspired and enthralled as they were able to follow in their classrooms, by way of a satellite broadcast, the daily progress and excitement of Sean Burch's successful ascent of Mount Everest; and

WHEREAS, Sean Burch realized his personal goal and life-long ambition, conquering the formidable Nepal summit of Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, rising 29,035 feet, without the assistance of an oxygen system; and

WHEREAS, despite frostbite and injury, Sean Burch, through determination, self-confidence, and sacrifice, attained the crowning achievement of all mountain climbers and serves as a role model for aspiring athletes and the youth of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Sean Burch, an outstanding American athlete and fine Virginian, on his remarkable achievements as a world-class mountaineer and master of physical endurance; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sean Burch as an expression of the admiration of the General Assembly.

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