## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 232**

Commending the Surry County High School boys' basketball team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 3, 2006 Agreed to by the Senate, February 9, 2006

WHEREAS, the Surry County High School boys' basketball team capped a 26-4 season by capturing the 2005 Virginia High School League Group A state basketball championship, the team's first state title; and

WHEREAS, the victory by the Surry County High School Cougars brought the first state championship to Head Coach Joseph A. Ellis, Sr., who in his 13 years as head coach has led his teams to more than 197 victories; and

WHEREAS, a high-scoring team during the regular season, the Surry County Cougars topped 90 points six times and scored 104 points in one notable victory; and

WHEREAS, in the three-game state championship tournament, the Cougars turned to their man-to-man defense to hold their three opponents to an average of 49 points; and

WHEREAS, in the state quarterfinals, the Surry Cougars defeated Altavista High School, 52-44; in the state semifinals, the Cougars defeated Gate City High School, 68-55; and in the state finals, the Cougars prevailed over Twin Springs High School, 57-48; and

WHEREAS, Coach Joseph Ellis' Cougars played with intensity, teamwork, perseverance, and an overwhelming desire to grant a final wish to their head coach, who was diagnosed with inoperable cancer: and

WHEREAS, Surry County High School's historic championship is a tribute to the hard work and team spirit of the athletes, the leadership of the coaching staff, and the support of the Surry County community and the Virginia High School League; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the Cougars of Surry County High School on their Group A state boys' basketball championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Surry County High School basketball coaching staff and the basketball team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the championship performance.