SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5006

Commending the Giles High School football team.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 29, 2006 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 11, 2006

WHEREAS, the Giles High School football team (13-1) won the Virginia High School League Group A, Division 2 state championship against Manassas Park High School at Bridgeforth Stadium at James Madison University on December 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, twenty-five years ago the Giles High School Spartans won their first state title by a single point; and

WHEREAS, the state championship game this year against the Cougars of Manassas Park was a heart-stopper, with the Spartans clinching the title 35-34 in the final minutes of the game, ending the defending state champion Cougars' 27-game winning streak; and

WHEREAS, a crucial play came late in the fourth quarter with Giles ahead 35-34, when Spartan senior Logan Witt blocked a Manassas Park extra point; and

WHEREAS, Manassas Park's fate was sealed when Spartan inside linebacker, sophomore Billy Cook, intercepted a final Cougar pass at game's end and the Spartans, inside the 20 yard line with only 1 minute, 32 seconds to go, ran out the clock; and

WHEREAS, the Giles title win was a total team effort and a hard-fought battle, with Nathan Tanner's 119 yards rushing, Ryne Hevener's 32 yards rushing, quarterback Ricky Cook's 227 yards total offense, and Jared Brown's 2 point conversion all securing the narrow win; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary success of the 2005 Spartans is a tribute to the talent, dedication, teamwork, and good sportsmanship of the players, the leadership of Head Coach Steve Ragsdale and the coaching staff, and the support of the students, faculty, and parents of Giles High School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Giles High School football team on its Virginia High School League Group A, Division 2 state championship and its outstanding 2005 season; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Head Coach Steve Ragsdale on behalf of all of the players of the 2005 Giles High School football team as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on their outstanding performance.