

2009 SESSION

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099158762

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1003

Offered February 23, 2009

Commending the Potomac School forensics team.

Patrons—Vanderhye and Scott, J.M.; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, the Potomac School forensics team is commended for winning the National Forensic League's Virginia Tournament at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Adam Gerchick and Esfandiyar "Yar" Batmanghelidj successfully defended Potomac School's title as state champion in the Lincoln-Douglas debate at the tournament held January 24 - 25, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln-Douglas style of debate pits students one-on-one with changing topics, which requires them to be well prepared and quick thinkers; and

WHEREAS, Yar Batmanghelidj, a junior who was state champion last year, went undefeated at this year's tournament, while Adam Gerchick rose from his third place position last year; and

WHEREAS, the Potomac School also won the "Jefferson Award for Excellence" as the best Lincoln-Douglas debate school and the "Dogwood Cup" for outstanding mid-sized school at the tournament; fellow varsity team members James McElwain and Madhu Rhamankutty also won rounds at the tournament; and

WHEREAS, Adam Gerchick and Yar Batmanghelidj will represent the Potomac School and Virginia at the National Forensic League's national championship tournament in Birmingham, Alabama, in June; and

WHEREAS, the Potomac School forensics team practiced for many months before the tournament, competing against other students from different states along the East Coast; and

WHEREAS, the Potomac School forensics team has demonstrated great talent and ability, particularly as the school's program is less than two years old; and

WHEREAS, the Potomac School forensics team's success is due to the efforts and preparation of the team members; the guidance of Tom Rollins, the team's coach; and the support of the students, faculty, and administration of the Potomac School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Potomac School forensics team on its championship performance; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the Potomac School forensics team as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for the team's accomplishment and best wishes in its future endeavors.

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