HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 164

Commending the Northside High School football team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 22, 2010 Agreed to by the Senate, January 28, 2010

WHEREAS, the triumphant 2009 Northside High School football team capped a winning season by taking home the Virginia High School League Group AA, Division 3, state football championship on December 12, 2009, at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg; and

WHEREAS, the Northside High School Vikings (12 - 2) defeated the Bruton High School Panthers 20 - 17 for Roanoke County's first state football championship; and

WHEREAS, the Northside High School football team also defeated its opponents to win the Blue Ridge District Championship and the Region 3 championship on the way to the state championship game; and

WHEREAS, in a thrilling game, Northside High School scored late in the first quarter to tie Bruton High School, but by the middle of the third quarter the Vikings trailed Bruton High School 17 - 7; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to come-from-behind victories, the Vikings buckled down and scored late in the third quarter to keep the game alive, while a fourth-quarter touchdown put the Vikings ahead; and

WHEREAS, in a nail-biting finish, a Panther caught a pass at the three-yard line with 30 seconds left in the game; the Panthers lined up for a field goal kick, but sophomore Adam Hardister ran through a hole and blocked the kick, giving the Vikings victory; and

WHEREAS, all of the team members worked diligently throughout the season and playoffs and contributed to the team's outstanding success; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary performance of the 2009 Vikings is a tribute to the talent, dedication, and perseverance of the players; the leadership of Head Coach Burt Torrence and his staff; and the support of the students, parents, and faculty of Northside High School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Northside High School football team on its outstanding 2009 season and Group AA, Division 3, state title; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Head Coach Burt Torrence as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the championship performance of the Northside High School football team.