HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 417

Commending the Wilson Memorial High School debate team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 10, 2010 Agreed to by the Senate, March 12, 2010

WHEREAS, the outstanding Wilson Memorial High School debate team from Fishersville in Augusta County captured its second straight Virginia High School League Group A state debate championship in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Wilson Memorial High School debate team started the year with a new coach and just eight freshman students with no experience in debate who were nevertheless enthusiastic and committed to doing their best; and

WHEREAS, under the exemplary leadership of Coach Jay Singleton, the Wilson Memorial High School debate team quickly became a strong and competitive team, winning its first state championship title in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson Memorial High School debate team has grown to 15 members who compete in both student congress and Lincoln-Douglas one-on-one debates against other schools from across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the skilled Wilson Memorial High School debate team has debated everything from vigilantism to gay rights to hate crime enhancements to capital punishment, demonstrating their strong research and communication skills; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson Memorial High School debate team members have sharpened their analytical skills, developed their ability to communicate on their feet, and forged strong friendships during their years together; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson Memorial High School debate team's talent, combined with hard work and inspired coaching, led to their victorious 2009 state championship win; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Wilson Memorial High School debate team on its outstanding performance in the 2008 and 2009 Virginia High School League Group A state debate championships; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Coach Jay Singleton as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the state champions from Wilson Memorial High School.