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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 856

Offered February 10, 2011

Commending the Shenandoah Babe Ruth boys' baseball team.

Patron—Gilbert

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WHEREAS, in 2010 the Shenandoah Babe Ruth boys' baseball team captured the Babe Ruth League 16 - 18 Year-olds Baseball State Tournament title and placed third in the Southeast Region Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Shenandoah Babe Ruth boys' baseball team includes nine players from Page County High School, three players from Spotswood High School, and manager Shane Atkins; and

WHEREAS, Shenandoah took the field on July 8, 2010, for the five-day state tournament in Emporia and eliminated Varina, North Fairfax County, and Lane before facing off against Greater Richmond twice and winning the state title on July 12, 2010; and

WHEREAS, with only 10 days between the state and regional tournaments, Shenandoah faced the daunting challenge of raising \$10,000 to fund their trip to Lewisburg, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Shenandoah area rallied to their team's cause and, with the help of families, friends, and local businesses, the Shenandoah team held bake sales and car washes and collected donations, raising the required amount in only six days; and

WHEREAS, after losing an early game to Southern Florida, Shenandoah dominated their bracket, beating Harris County, Georgia, 7 - 5, defeating Eastern Tennessee, 4 -2, and knocking Eastern Carolina out of the running, 9 - 7; and

WHEREAS, after losing a hard-fought battle to Southern Florida, 2 - 5, Shenandoah proudly took third place in the region tournament they had worked so hard to attend; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding performance of the Shenandoah Babe Ruth baseball 16 - 18 year-olds team is attributable not only to the skill and dedication of the players and their manager Shane Atkins, but also to the support of their families, friends, and their fans in the community who gave so generously to make their dreams possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Shenandoah Babe Ruth boys' baseball team on their state tournament win and excellent region tournament performance; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Shenandoah Babe Ruth boys' baseball team as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on their achievements and best wishes on their future endeavors.