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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 208

Offered January 18, 2012

*Commending the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team.*

Patrons—Landes, Bell, Richard P. and Cline; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team continued to demonstrate its strong knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management by capturing the 2011 Virginia Envirothon; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Envirothon, sponsored by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Virginia's 47 soil and water conservation districts, was held May 22 and 23, 2011, at Camp Hanover in Mechanicsville; and

WHEREAS, Envirothon is an innovative competition that provides high school students with the opportunity to learn about environmental and natural resource management issues, develop problem-solving and presentation skills, and gain exposure to careers in the natural resources field; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team won the regional title to advance to the statewide competition, where it faced five "in-the-field" test stations—on soils, wildlife, aquatics, forestry, and a current environmental issue; and

WHEREAS, Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team members worked together to formulate answers to the questions given at each station and presented their responses in both writing and a hands-on format; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team gave an outstanding oral presentation highlighting the team's solution to a current challenging environmental issue—Salt and Fresh Water Estuaries—before a panel of industry and natural resource professionals; and

WHEREAS, after a stellar performance at the Virginia Envirothon, the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team traveled to Canada in July 2011 to compete in the Canon National Envirothon; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team members—Zack Gurkin, Alden Hough, Marissa Lubkowski, Anna Shuttle, Lauren Tabor, and Megan Wagner—were sponsored by the Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District and received expert guidance from coaches Brent Hull and Eric Stogdale; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team bodes well for the future of environmental and natural resource management in the Commonwealth as the leaders of tomorrow gain practical insight and experience today through a unique competition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team on winning the 2011 Virginia Envirothon; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Fort Defiance High School Envirothon team as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and appreciation for the team's interest in the natural resources of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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