

2012 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 331

Offered February 3, 2012

Commending Grace Anne Braxton.

Patrons—Howell, W.J., Cole and Orrock; Senator: Reeves

WHEREAS, Grace Anne Braxton of Fredericksburg, one of nine Virginia athletes who competed at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, successfully defended her title as the top Special Olympics female golfer in the world at the international competition; and

WHEREAS, over 7,500 athletes traveled to the historic city of Athens, Greece, to participate in the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games held June 25 - July 4, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Grace Anne Braxton, who had previously captured a gold medal at the Special Olympics World Summer Games held in Shanghai, China, in 2007, went to Athens excited to compete and renew old friendships and develop new ones with athletes from around the world; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished athlete, Grace Anne Braxton has competed in a variety of sports; she won a gold medal in swimming at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in 1991 and has played golf for nearly two decades; and

WHEREAS, Grace Anne Braxton has garnered numerous awards over the years for her outstanding play and has been a dedicated advocate for Special Olympics, serving on the board of Special Olympics Virginia for four years; and

WHEREAS, prior to the opening of the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Grace Anne Braxton had the opportunity to tour several of the ancient sites of Greece and meet Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, who attended the games as part of a presidential delegation; and

WHEREAS, at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Grace Anne Braxton took home the gold medal and held onto her title as the top Special Olympics female golfer in the world after winning the Level 5 18-hole Division I stroke play competition at the Glyfada Golf Club in Athens; and

WHEREAS, a talented athlete and inspiring role model, Grace Anne Braxton proudly represented the City of Fredericksburg, the Commonwealth, and the nation at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Grace Anne Braxton on her outstanding Special Olympics golfing career and her exemplary performance in Athens, Greece, at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Grace Anne Braxton as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for her dedication to the Special Olympics, her fellow athletes, and the sport of golf.

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