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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 154

Offered February 3, 2012

Commending Elizabeth Klein.

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Patrons—Puller, Ebbin and Barker

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WHEREAS, Elizabeth Klein of Alexandria, one of nine Virginia athletes who competed at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, won fourth place in the 50- and 100-meter freestyle aquatic races and eighth place in the 4 x 50-meter freestyle relay aquatic race 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, Elizabeth Klein, a sophomore at Edison High School, began swimming 10 years ago at Fairfax County's Audrey Moore RECenter at Wakefield Park; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Elizabeth Klein has worked on her strokes and breathing techniques while also learning to play soccer and basketball; and

WHEREAS, a proud participant in Special Olympics, Elizabeth Klein captured gold at the 2009 and 2010 Special Olympics Virginia Summer Games; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the international competition, Elizabeth Klein practiced diving off a block and attended practice three times a week; and

WHEREAS, the only swimmer from Virginia to participate in the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Elizabeth Klein swam before an enthusiastic crowd to capture fourth place in the 50-and 100-meter freestyle aquatic races and eighth place in the 4 x 50-meter freestyle relay aquatic race; and

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

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Elizabeth Klein on her outstanding Special Olympics swimming 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 Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Elizabeth Klein as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for her dedication to the Special Olympics, her fellow athletes, and the sport of swimming.