2012 SESSION

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 211

Commending the Oscar Smith High School football team.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2012 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2012

WHEREAS, the Oscar Smith High School football team, from Chesapeake, claimed victory on December 10, 2011, with a decisive 47-21 win over Centreville High School in the Virginia High School League Group AAA Division 6 championship game; and

WHEREAS, the Oscar Smith Tigers, a perennial powerhouse football program that is ranked 43rd in the country, now own their second state championship trophy in four years, having won the title in 2008; it is the third state championship won by a Chesapeake school in the city's 49-year history; and

WHEREAS, the Oscar Smith High School Tigers defeated Battlefield High School 42-14 in the semi-finals; during the state championship, the Tigers scored 21 points in the first half of the game, which was held at one of the state's premier sports venues, University of Virginia's Scott Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Oscar Smith's quarterback, J. J. Williamson, threw for 240 yards and two touchdowns in the game, and running back J. C. Coleman accounted for three touchdowns, even though he was recovering from an earlier ankle injury; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers' defense played a strong role in the team's win; defensive back Josh Townsend had a 43-yard interception for a touchdown, and linebacker Rhakeem Stallings, who was also a member of the school's 2008 championship team, had nine tackles, two sacks, and a forced fumble; and

WHEREAS, the Oscar Smith High School team was 14-1 this season; its only loss was to nationally ranked Gilman School of Baltimore; the defeat motivated the team to accept nothing less than total victory for the remainder of the season; and

WHEREAS, the Tigers' success was due to the hard work and commitment of the entire team; the Oscar Smith High School football program, which continues to be ably led by Coach Richard Morgan and his staff, has won seven consecutive district titles; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Oscar Smith High School football team on winning the Virginia High School League Group AAA Division 6 championship for 2011, its second state title in four years; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Richard Morgan, coach of the Oscar Smith High School football team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and congratulations for the team's stellar athletic accomplishments.