

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 231

Offered February 21, 2013

Commending the West Springfield High School drama team.

Patron—Filler-Corn

WHEREAS, the 2012 - 2013 West Springfield High School drama team won the Virginia High School League Group AAA Northern Region one-act play competition on February 16, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the team advanced to the regional tournament after winning the Virginia High School League (VHSL) Patriot District one-act play competition on January 19, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the West Springfield team's play, "The Other Room," is an award-winning drama about a high-functioning autistic teenager trying to build a connection with a fellow high school student; and

WHEREAS, a veteran drama teacher and a former special education instructor, West Springfield High School drama director Bernie DeLeo selected "The Other Room" to raise awareness of the struggles faced by teenagers with autism among high school audiences; and

WHEREAS, sophomore William Shipley was named the outstanding performer in the district round; several other members of the West Springfield team received nominations or honorable mentions for outstanding performer awards in the district and regional rounds; and

WHEREAS, the West Springfield High School drama team earned a berth in the VHSL Group AAA state one-act play competition on March 2, 2013, where they will face seven other teams; it is the team's first appearance in the state finals since its last state victory in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the regional victory is due to the hard work and dedication of each member of the cast and crew, the visionary leadership of Bernie DeLeo, and the enthusiastic support of the students, administration, and fans of West Springfield High School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the 2012 - 2013 West Springfield High School drama team hereby be commended on winning the Virginia High School League Group AAA Northern Region one-act play competition; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bernie DeLeo, the drama director of West Springfield High School, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the drama team's success and best wishes for the future.

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