2015 SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 871

Commending Matt Hagan.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, February 27, 2015

WHEREAS, Matt Hagan of Christiansburg was crowned National Hot Rod Association Funny Car World Champion in the 2014 Mello Yello Drag Racing Series competition; it is the second world title for the talented racer and his Don Schumacher Racing crew; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 finals were held in California at the Auto Club Raceway at Pomona; Matt Hagan claimed victory on November 16 with a dramatic win in his Mopar/Rocky Boots Dodge Charger over drag-racing legend John Force; and

WHEREAS, Matt Hagan led John Force by 23 points as the pair began final eliminations racing; he then defeated his opponent in the last of the four elimination rounds, winning the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Finals competition for the second consecutive year—and the world championship; and

WHEREAS, the NHRA, which was founded in 1951, is the largest promoter of professional drag racing in the world; from its inception, the organization has been dedicated to safety as it offers millions of fans a thrilling racing experience; and

WHEREAS, Matt Hagan's victory is a tribute to the support of his many fans and the talent and hard work of his crew, which is led by crew chief Dickie Venables; the hardworking team played a vital role during his run to the crown; and

WHEREAS, Matt Hagan, an avid deer and duck hunter, owns and operates a 1,000-acre cattle farm when he is not racing; he and his father, David, are partners in Matt Hagan Outdoors, a retail store that opened in Radford in 2013, catering to hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Matt Hagan of Christiansburg, a member of the Don Schumacher Racing team, for winning the National Hot Rod Association Funny Car World Championship in the 2014 Mello Yello Drag Racing Series competition; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Matt Hagan as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for his outstanding achievement. HJ871ER