## **SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 63**

Commending the Virginia State University football team.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 15, 2015

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University football team claimed its first championship since 1996, winning the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference championship on November 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University Trojans defeated the Winston-Salem State University Rams 21-17 in a thrilling contest in Durham, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Trojans took an early 14-0 lead after returning a fumble for a 69-yard touchdown and recovering a fumble in the end zone; the team stayed focused throughout the game and sealed the victory with another touchdown with only 2:59 left in the fourth quarter; and

WHEREAS, in his college debut, freshman quarterback Niko Johnson was named most valuable player and ably led the Virginia State Trojans' offense with 125 passing yards, 76 rushing yards, and the game-winning touchdown; and

WHEREAS, Kavon Bellamy rushed for 68 yards and caught two receptions for 48 yards; Latrell Scott finished his second season as head coach of the Virginia State Trojans as the 2014 Football Coach of the Year in the conference; and

WHEREAS, finishing the season with a 10-3 overall record and a 7-0 conference record, the Virginia State Trojans achieved their goal of appearing in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II playoffs; entering as the number-three seed, the team advanced to the second round of the Super Region One bracket; and

WHEREAS, the successful season is a testament to the hard work and determination of all the players, the sound leadership of the coaches and staff, and the enthusiastic support of the entire Virginia State University community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Virginia State University football team hereby be commended on winning the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia State University football team as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the team's accomplishments.