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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 361

Offered February 25, 2016

Commending the Virginia members of Team USA at the 2015 Pan American Maccabi Games.

Patrons—Lopez, Bagby, Bell, John J., Boysko, Campbell, Cole, Davis, Filler-Corn, Hope, Kory, Krizek, LaRock, Levine, Minchew, Murphy, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Spruill, Sullivan, Ware and Watts; Senators: Carrico, Ebbin, Favola, Howell and Wagner

WHEREAS, the Virginia members of Team USA at the 2015 Pan American Maccabi Games ably represented the Commonwealth and the United States, winning numerous medals in a variety of events at the athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, the Pan American Maccabi Games are held every four years to perpetuate Jewish community bonds and a sense of cultural pride and identity through athletics; the Team USA delegation consisted of 376 members and 33 teams, including 11 residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, with 133 medals, Team USA finished well ahead of any other nation, including the host nation, Chile, and the Virginia members of the delegation were essential to the overall victory; and

WHEREAS, McKenna Witlin of Herndon, Benjamin Charles of Arlington, and Noah Desman of Clifton took multiple medals in Juniors Swimming events, and Thomas Pereles of Waynesboro claimed multiple medals in Masters Swimming; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Pereles of Waynesboro earned a gold medal in Open Women's Soccer, Ori Hoffer of Arlington and Doug Homer of Falls Church earned bronze medals in Masters Soccer 45+, and Eli Smolen and Sam Roytman of Fairfax competed in Juniors Boys' Soccer; and

WHEREAS, David Ostroff of Arlington claimed a gold medal in Masters Men's Basketball 35+ and Jake Kaplan of Leesburg claimed a silver medal in Open Men's Volleyball; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia members of Team USA upheld the ideals of the Pan American Maccabi Games, demonstrating athletic excellence, camaraderie, and sportsmanship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Virginia members of Team USA at the 2015 Pan American Maccabi Games; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the 11 Virginia members of Team USA at the 2015 Pan American Maccabi Games as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their exceptional athletic achievements.

INTRODUCED

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