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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 519

Offered March 7, 2016

Commending the University of Virginia athletics program.

Patrons—Toscano, Albo, Bell, Robert B., Fariss, Howell, Landes and Massie; Senators: Deeds, McEachin, Reeves and Surovell

WHEREAS, during the 2014 - 2015 academic year, the University of Virginia athletics program sent 20 of its 25 teams to postseason tournaments, won six Atlantic Coast Conference championships, earned three National Collegiate Athletic Association titles, and placed sixth in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup, the most prestigious all-sport achievement in college athletics; and

WHEREAS, the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup was developed by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics and ranks colleges and universities based on their performance in men's and women's sports; the University of Virginia finished in the top 10 of the rankings for the second consecutive year; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia men's soccer, men's tennis, and baseball teams all earned National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) titles in 2014 - 2015, the first time the university had won three national titles in the same year; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia baseball team earned its first NCAA title; the men's soccer team reached the NCAA tournament for the 34th consecutive season, the longest appearance streak in Division I college soccer; and the men's tennis team fielded the program's sixth NCAA individual champion; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding achievements of the men's soccer, men's tennis, and baseball teams propelled the University of Virginia Cavaliers men's athletics teams to first place in the Men's Capital One Cup, which honors the nation's best Division I men's and women's athletics programs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia athletics program's six Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) championship wins were the most by any school in the conference, and the University reached a milestone of 69 ACC titles since 2002, the most of any school in the conference during that period; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia women's golf, rowing, men's tennis, women's tennis, women's swimming and diving, and wrestling teams earned ACC championship titles, and the men's basketball and field hockey teams were named regular-season champions; and

WHEREAS, the University of Virginia men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's lacrosse, rowing, women's soccer, men's and women's swimming and diving, women's tennis, men's indoor track and field, men's and women's outdoor track and field, wrestling, and rowing teams also made appearances in NCAA postseason play; and

WHEREAS, a member of the women's swimming and diving team won two individual NCAA championships; and

WHEREAS, a member of the University of Virginia men's golf team helped Team USA reach the World Amateur Team Championship and participated in the 2015 U.S. Open, and two former Cavaliers helped lead the United States Women's National Team to victory in the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup; and

WHEREAS, the members of the University of Virginia football team earned several accolades, and two Cavaliers were selected in the 2015 National Football League (NFL) Draft, the 32nd consecutive year that at least one Cavalier was selected by an NFL team; and

WHEREAS, during the 2014 - 2015 academic year, countless University of Virginia student-athletes earned individual awards, including spots on conference, regional, and state teams, and four coaches earned Coach of the Year awards, including one at the national level; and

WHEREAS, participants in the University of Virginia athletics program also excelled in academics, with more than 300 student-athletes named to the ACC Academic Honor Roll; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the University of Virginia athletics program on its incredible success during the 2014 - 2015 academic year and top 10 finish in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Craig Littlepage, athletic director of the University of Virginia, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the program's exceptional accomplishments.

INTRODUCED

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