**9** 

## 17101443D HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 681

Offered January 11, 2017 Prefiled January 10, 2017 Commending the Rappahannock County High School volleyball team.

Patrons—Webert, Cole and Gilbert; Senator: Obenshain

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock County High School volleyball team, of Washington, won the Virginia High School League Group 1A state championship on November 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock County High School Panthers defeated the Mathews County High School Blue Devils in four sets, capping a 27 - 0 season and bringing home the school's first volleyball state championship; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Panthers dominated the first set thanks to the powerful outside hitting of Julia Estes, the Virginia High School League (VHSL) Group 1A state player of the year, who had 29 kills, 19 digs, and two aces in the title game, and Sarah East, who had nine kills, 23 digs, and two aces; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock County High School team prevailed in the second set, dropped the third set, then rallied to win the decisive fourth set by playing with grit, heart, and determination, proving that their mental game is as impressive as their physical game; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock Panthers have not lost a regular season game in two years and all members of the team contributed to the championship victory, aided by the love of their families, the support of the Rappahannock County High School community, and the leadership of head coach Courtney Atkins, the VHSL Group 1A state coach of the year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Rappahannock County High School volleyball team on winning the Virginia High School League Group 1A state championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Courtney Atkins, Rappahannock County High School head volleyball coach, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's stellar season and first championship title.