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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 228

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled November 2, 2016

Commending Townley Haas.

Patrons—Saslaw, Dunnavant, Chase, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Howell, Locke, Marsden, McPike, Newman, Norment, Stuart, Sturtevant, Surovell, Wagner and Wexton; Delegates: Bell, John J., Boysko, Bulova, Carr, Cole, Fariss, Filler-Corn, Fowler, Greason, Heretick, Herring, Hester, Hope, Keam, Knight, Kory, Krizek, Landes, Lindsey, Massie, Minchew, Murphy, Plum, Price, Rasoul, Simon, Sullivan, Torian, Toscano, Ware and Watts

WHEREAS, Townley Haas of Henrico County proudly represented the United States and the Commonwealth at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, winning a gold medal as a member of the men's 4x200-meter freestyle relay team; and

WHEREAS, after beginning his swimming career at a young age with a neighborhood league, Townley Haas joined NOVA of Virginia Aquatics and set numerous local, state, and national records; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Henrico County Public Schools and Benedictine College Preparatory School, Townley Haas was recruited to swim for the University of Texas, one of the most prestigious and successful swimming programs in the country; and

WHEREAS, at the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) swimming championship, Townley Haas finished first in the 200-yard freestyle, setting NCAA and American records; and

WHEREAS, in June 2016, at the Olympic Trials, Townley Haas placed first in the 200-meter freestyle and third in the 400-meter freestyle to earn a spot on Team USA, and at the Olympic Games, he reached the final of the men's individual 200-meter freestyle, where he placed fifth; and

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2016, Townley Haas helped the men's 4x200-meter freestyle relay team win an Olympic gold medal with a time of 7:00.66; he completed his 200-meter split in 1:44.14, the fastest split of any swimmer in the relay, and extended the team's lead to 2.07 seconds; and

WHEREAS, throughout his swimming career, and during the Olympic Games in particular, Townley Haas enjoyed the unwavering support of his family, friends, and members of the Henrico County community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Townley Haas on winning a gold medal in the men's 4x200-meter freestyle relay event at the 2016 Olympic Games; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Townley Haas as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his outstanding achievements as a member of Team USA.

INTRODUCED

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