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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 381

Offered February 7, 2017

Commending Gabrielle Christina Victoria Douglas.

Patrons—DeSteph and Lewis; Delegates: Lindsey and Villanueva

WHEREAS, Gabrielle Christina Victoria Douglas of Virginia Beach proudly represented the United States and the Commonwealth at the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, winning a gold medal in the women's gymnastics team all-around event; and

WHEREAS, Gabrielle "Gabby" Douglas discovered her passion for gymnastics early in life and won her first state championship when she was only eight years old; with her family's blessing, she left home to train under a world-renowned gymnastics coach in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, a two-time Olympian, Gabby Douglas previously earned two gold medals at the 2012 Olympic Games, when she became the first American to win gold in both the individual and team all-around events and the first African American to win a gold medal in the women's individual all-around event; and

WHEREAS, at the 2016 Olympic Games, Gabby Douglas helped to lead the women's gymnastics team to its second consecutive gold medal finish with a commanding performance; as members of the last United States Olympic women's gymnastics team that will include five gymnasts, Gabby Douglas and her teammates christened themselves the Final Five; and

WHEREAS, throughout her gymnastics career and during the Olympic Games in particular, Gabby Douglas enjoyed the enthusiastic support of her family, friends, coaches, and the members of the Virginia Beach community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Gabrielle Christina Victoria Douglas on winning a gold medal in the women's gymnastics team all-around event at the Games of the XXXI Olympiad; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gabrielle Christina Victoria Douglas as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her outstanding achievements as a member of Team USA.

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