HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 269

Commending Dr. Jessica M. Jones.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 16, 2018 Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2018

WHEREAS, Dr. Jessica M. Jones finished as national runner-up in the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet in January 2017; and

WHEREAS, an agriculture teacher and Future Farmers of America advisor at Tunstall High School in Dry Fork, Jessica Jones took first place at the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers Discussion Meet at the organization's annual convention to advance to the national level; and

WHEREAS, the Discussion Meet event simulates a committee meeting on a specific topic, with judges scoring contestants on discussion skills, understanding of agricultural issues, and ability to build a consensus; after advancing to the national competition in Phoenix, Arizona, Jessica Jones and the other participants were asked to draft a national immigration policy as the topic of the final round of the Discussion Meet; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Jones described her ideal policy as reliable, feasible, and flexible, highlighting the importance of the foreign-born labor force to farms in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as a finalist, Jessica Jones received a \$3,000 prize, a Case IH tractor, and equipment from Stihl, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Jones ably represented the professionalism, knowledge, and work ethic of all Virginia farmers on the national stage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. Jessica M. Jones on finishing as national runner-up in the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Jessica M. Jones as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her achievements and best wishes for the future.