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Offered February 20, 2018 Commending the James Madison High School band.

Patrons—Keam; Senator: Petersen

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 300** 

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WHEREAS, the James Madison High School band, an exceptional public secondary school band in Vienna, was selected as a 2017 National Winner of the National Band Association's prestigious Programs of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Award is the National Band Association's highest honor and is designed to recognize high school band programs that promote excellence and high achievement in all areas over a continuous period of years, as has the James Madison High School band; and

WHEREAS, the James Madison High School band was one of only four programs nationwide to win the Blue Ribbon Award; it became eligible for the honor after receiving the Southern Division Blue Ribbon Award in October 2017; and

WHEREAS, prior to receiving the Blue Ribbon Award, the James Madison High School band completed a rigorous application process that included submitting live performance recordings from concerts or festivals from at least two school years, a list of honors and accolades received in the last four years, four entire concert band programs from the last three years, and rating forms and adjudicator sheets from festivals for the last three years; and

WHEREAS, the James Madison High School band was also required to provide a comprehensive list of all works performed over the last two years, a report on the number of its students who were accepted to regional and state honor bands, a report on solo and ensemble participants with ratings for the past three years, and an estimate of the number of its graduates who continue to perform after high school; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Michael Hackbarth, the talented student-musicians of the James Madison High School band continue to delight audiences and serve as outstanding role models for school music programs across the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the James Madison High School band on its selection as a 2017 National Winner of the National Band Association's Programs of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael Hackbarth, director of the James Madison High School band, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the program's outstanding accomplishments and best wishes for continued success.