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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 315

Offered February 21, 2018

Commending the Virginia State University football team.

Patrons—Aird; Senator: Dance

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University football team won the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship on November 11, 2017, in Salem; and

WHEREAS, the championship win capped off a historic season for the Virginia State University Trojans, who routinely dominated their opponents and finished the year with an unblemished 10 - 0 record for the first time in the school's history; and

WHEREAS, in a thrilling conference title game, the Virginia State Trojans defeated the Fayetteville State University Broncos 42 - 19; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Trojans charged out of the gate in the championship game, taking an early lead with a rushing touchdown from senior running back Trenton Cannon; quarterback Cordelral Cook then added to the advantage with a pair of touchdown passes to Zachary Parker and Joshua Harris, giving the Trojans a 21 - 0 lead by the end of the first half; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Trojans gave up two touchdowns in the second half, but the team went on to secure victory with a touchdown from Cordelral Cook and two spectacular rushing touchdowns of 73 yards and 79 yards from Trenton Cannon, who ended the game with 186 yards and three scores; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Trojans' defense was led by Brandon Lynch, who recorded twelve tackles; he also combined with teammates Cullen Marshall, Keonte Connelly, and Deion Harris for four sacks; and

WHEREAS, Virginia State Trojans coach Reggie Barlow finished the season as the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) coach of the year; in addition, senior Trenton Cannon set new school records for single-season and career rushing yards; and

WHEREAS, by winning the CIAA championship, the Virginia State Trojans advanced to compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II playoffs; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State University football team's conference title is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of all its talented athletes, the excellent guidance of its coaches and staff, and the enthusiastic support of family members, friends, and the entire Virginia State University community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia State University football team on winning the 2017 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Reggie Barlow, head coach of the Virginia State University football team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's outstanding season.

INTRODUCED

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