## 2018 SPECIAL SESSION I

## **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 524**

Commending the 2017 - 2018 Salem High School forensics team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 17, 2018

WHEREAS, the 2017 - 2018 Salem High School forensics team won the Virginia High School League Class 4 state championship, making history with its 13th consecutive state title; and

WHEREAS, in the state tournament at Clover Hill High School in Midlothian, the Salem High School forensics team defeated the second-place team from John Handley High School by a total score of 35 - 12; and

WHEREAS, the Salem High School forensics team placed a tournament-high 11 competitors into the top three of several events, including five individual champions—Sam Kennedy in Humorous Interpretation, Jordan Barker in Serious Dramatic Interpretation, Garrin Snow and Phoebe Stevens in Humorous Duo, and Charlie Wallace in Extemporaneous Speaking; and

WHEREAS, the Salem High School forensics team also had five individual runners-up-Meredith Hicks and Rachel Chaos in Humorous Duo, AnnElese Galleo in Storytelling, Adalynn Eller in Humorous Interpretation, and Moss Stratton in Original Oratory; and

WHEREAS, of the other Salem High School forensics team members, Alayna Johnson placed third in Serious Dramatic Interpretation, Hannah Cecil placed third in Prose Interpretation, Sophia Gibson and Skyler Allen placed third in Serious Duo, Katherine Vaughn and Reid Burton placed fifth in Serious Duo, Emma Crowe placed sixth in Poetry, and Serena Fick placed sixth in Impromptu; and

WHEREAS, since 2004, the Salem High School forensics team has had 71 individual state champions and 139 top-three finishers in program history, and multiple members of the same families have won individual titles during the team's 13 years of dominance; and

WHEREAS, the Salem High School forensics team achieved success with the leadership and dedication of head coach Mark Ingerson, managers Ashby Garst and Katie Conklin, and assistant coaches Pam Carter and Maggie Coffey and the enthusiastic support of the entire Salem High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the 2017 - 2018 Salem High School forensics team hereby be commended on winning the Virginia High School League Class 4 state championship, its 13th consecutive state title; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mark Ingerson, head coach of the 2017 - 2018 Salem High School forensics team, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the team's legacy of excellence in competitive forensics.