## **SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 116**

Commending the Apprentice School football team.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 14, 2019

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Apprentice School football team of Newport News won the National Club Football Association national championship during its inaugural season in the league; and

WHEREAS, the Apprentice School Builders were undefeated in the championship tournament and dominated the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies of Michigan in the national final, winning by a score of 56 - 14; and

WHEREAS, after taking an early 14 - 0 lead, the Apprentice School Builders never looked back, holding the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies to only two touchdowns in the first half and scoring 34 unanswered points in the second half; and

WHEREÂS, the Apprentice School Builders were unstoppable on the ground, averaging 8.6 yards per carry on 46 attempts for a total of 395 rushing yards; and

WHEREAS, first-year head coach John Davis introduced a split-back option offense and revitalized the team's defense to help the Apprentice School Builders achieve their first winning season since 2006; and

WHEREAS, defensive lineman Khris Smith and cornerback Raekwon Jackson of the Apprentice School Builders were named to the Virginia Sports Information Directors 2018 College Division All-State Second Team; and

WHEREAS, the championship win is a testament to the skill and hard work of all the student-athletes, the leadership of coaches and staff, and the support of the entire Apprentice School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Apprentice School football team hereby be commended for its victory in the 2018 National Club Football Association national championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John Davis, head coach of the Apprentice School football team, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the team's exceptional achievements and best wishes for the future.