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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 492

Offered March 2, 2020

Commending the William Fleming High School 800-meter sprint medley relay team.

Patron—Rasoul

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WHEREAS, the William Fleming High School 800-meter sprint medley relay team of Roanoke won first place at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor meet in Greensboro, North Carolina, on June 16, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the William Fleming relay team, including Tajai Jackson, a recent graduate at the time, then-rising seniors Timothy Allen and Robert Martin, and then-rising sophomore Micah Jones, finished the race with a time of 1:30.55; and

WHEREAS, despite an eighth seed in the last of seven heats and running out of lane 8, the time posted by the William Fleming relay team was the second best time for a high school team in the United States in 2019, making it one of the greatest track and field accomplishments in the school's history; and

WHEREAS, the William Fleming relay team was in second place when Tajai Jackson took the baton for the final 400 meters, but his leg of 47.05 seconds was fast enough to edge out the team from Central Dauphin East High School of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, by over half a second; and

WHEREAS, at the Highland Springs Invitational in Glen Allen on May 11, the William Fleming relay team recorded a time of 1:33.33, which was the best time for the event in Virginia in 2019 and fast enough to qualify the team for the national meet in June; and

WHEREAS, the William Fleming relay team's triumphs are the result of the effort and dedication of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and teachers, and the unwavering support of their classmates and community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the William Fleming High School 800-meter sprint medley relay team on the occasion of its momentous victory at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor meet in June 2019; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the William Fleming High School 800-meter sprint medley relay team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its exceptional performance and best wishes for the future.