HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 126

Commending the Norfolk State University men's basketball team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 24, 2022 Agreed to by the Senate, January 27, 2022

WHEREAS, the Norfolk State University men's basketball team won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship on March 13, 2021, at the Norfolk Scope Arena; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk State University Spartans defeated the Morgan State University Bears by a score of 71-63 to capture the program's second Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) championship title and its first since 2012; and

WHEREAS, the game was back and forth until 10:44 in the first half, when a dunk from Nyzaiah Chambers put the Norfolk State Spartans ahead for good; the team was up seven points at the end of the half and would hold a commanding double-digit lead for most of the remainder of the contest; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk State Spartans were led by Joe Bryant, who had 17 points and was named MEAC Tournament Most Valuable Player; Kashaun Hicks, who had 14 points and seven rebounds; and Devante Carter, who had 12 points, seven rebounds, and five assists; head coach Robert Jones was named the MEAC Tournament Most Outstanding Coach; and

WHEREAS, staunch defense played a major role in the Norfolk State Spartans' win, as the team held the Morgan State Bears to 39 percent shooting, forced 18 turnovers, and allowed only three of 17 attempts from beyond the arc; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of the Norfolk State Spartans are the result of the dedication and hard work of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and professors, and the unwavering support of the entire Norfolk State University community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Norfolk State University men's basketball team for winning the 2021 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert Jones, head coach of the Norfolk State University men's basketball team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's achievement.