HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 218

Commending the Grace Christian School cross country team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2022 Agreed to by the Senate, February 24, 2022

WHEREAS, the Grace Christian School cross country team of Mechanicsville won the Virginia Metro Athletic Conference championship on October 25, 2021, at the Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center; and

WHEREAS, the Grace Christian School cross country team's victory was made possible through podium finishes at the varsity level from Austin Barker, who placed first in the boys' division, and Colleen Gallaher, Caitlin Morris, and Madi Moore, who placed first, second, and third, respectively, in the girls' division; and

WHEREAS, the Grace Christian School cross country team benefited from standout performances at the middle school level, with Luke Hudson, Xander Coppage, and Taylor Brann placing first, second, and third, respectively, in the boys' division and Stella Cary and Destiny Tanner placing second and third, respectively, in the girls' division; and

WHEREAS, with their win, the Grace Christian School Kings marked their second consecutive year earning top honors in the Virginia Metro Athletic Conference; and

WHEREAS, the Grace Christian Kings were motivated all season by coach Heather Ferguson, who inspired in her runners a desire to persevere through challenges and adversity and to cultivate the skills and stamina they would need to achieve greatness; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Grace Christian Kings is the result of the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and teachers, and the unwavering support of the entire Grace Christian School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Grace Christian School cross country team for winning the 2021 Virginia Metro 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 Heather Ferguson, coach of the Grace Christian School cross country team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's achievement.