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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 343

Offered February 17, 2023

Commending the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University men's basketball team.

Patrons—Ballard, Avoli, Bagby, Bulova, Cherry, Clark, Durant, Guzman, Hope, Kory, Lopez, McGuire, Mullin, Orrock, Rasoul, Seibold, Shin, Simonds, Ware, Watts and Wyatt

WHEREAS, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University men's basketball team won the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament championship at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York, on March 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech Hokies defeated the Duke University Blue Devils by a score of 82-67 to secure the university's first-ever Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) men's basketball tournament championship title; and

WHEREAS, after going into the half narrowly ahead 42-39, the Virginia Tech Hokies quickly jumped out to a double-digit advantage early in the second half and held at least a five-point lead for the remainder of the contest; and

WHEREAS, the ACC tournament's Most Valuable Player, Hunter Cattoor, led the team with a career-high 31 points while shooting seven for nine from beyond the arc; he finished the tournament with a total of 49 points, 14 rebounds, and six assists across four games; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech Hokies' historic win was a total team effort, with another standout performance from senior Keve Aluma, who had 19 points, 10 rebounds, and seven assists in the final and scored 76 points, 26 rebounds, and 13 assists in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech senior Storm Murphy scored a total of 47 points, seven rebounds, and 18 assists in the four tournament games, and sophomore Darius Maddox recorded 38 points, 13 rebounds, and one assist; and

WHEREAS, the ACC championship win marked a triumphant end to a historic season for the Virginia Tech Hokies, with Hunter Cattoor and Keve Aluma becoming the first-ever Hokies to be named to the ACC All-Tournament First Team; Storm Murphy and Darius Maddox were also named to the ACC All-Tournament Second Team; and

WHEREAS, entering the ACC tournament as the seventh seed, the Virginia Tech Hokies, with the outstanding leadership of head coach Mike Young, pulled off four wins in four straight days to become the lowest-seeded team to win the championship in the history of the tournament; and

WHEREAS, by also winning 13 of 15 games in the run-up to the ACC tournament championship, the Virginia Tech Hokies punched their ticket to the 2022 National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament in commanding fashion; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Virginia Tech Hokies is the result of the dedication and hard work of the student-athletes; the leadership and guidance of their coaches, trainers, and professors; and the unwavering support of the entire Virginia Tech community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University men's basketball team hereby be commended for winning the 2022 Atlantic Coast Conference tournament championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Mike Young, head coach of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University men's basketball team, and Whit Babcock, Virginia Tech athletic director, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the team's achievement.

INTRODUCED

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