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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2031

Offered September 29, 1994

Commending the 1994 Richmond Braves.

Patrons—Rhodes, Ball, Barlow, Cantor, Cox, Cunningham, DeBoer, Grayson, Hall, Hargrove, Ingram, Jones, D.C., Nixon, Reid and Watkins; Senators: Benedetti, Cross, Holland, E.M., Lambert, Marsh, Martin and Stosch

WHEREAS, the Richmond Braves, the AAA affiliate of the major-league Atlanta Braves, won the 1994 Governors' Cup, symbolic of supremacy in the International League; and

WHEREAS, unlike their major-league brethren, who refused to complete a most promising season, the Richmond Braves staged an exciting late-season rally to overcome the Charlotte Knights and the Columbus Clippers and capture the International League's Western Division regular season title; and

WHEREAS, entering the first round of the playoffs, the Braves faced the defending champion Knights, a team they had battled all season long for divisional honors; and

WHEREAS, in an exciting four-game series, the Braves' hitters prevailed, three games to one, to move to the championship series against the Eastern Division Syracuse Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, using the momentum they had gained through the last month of the season and the first round of playoffs, and relying on their dominant pitching staff, the Richmond Braves swept the Chiefs in three straight games to capture the Governors' Cup; and

WHEREAS, the Braves' victory was achieved by a team not expected to be of championship caliber in 1994; by a team that had lost many of its top 1993 players to the major leagues; and by a team that relied on excellent pitching, timely hitting, sound defense, and steady improvement to end its season as champions; and

WHEREAS, the Braves' fourth Governors' Cup, and their first since 1989, was a tribute to the character and teamwork of the players, the skill of Manager Grady Little and his coaching staff, and the support of the hundreds of thousands of fans who followed the team throughout the season; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly salute the 1994 Richmond Braves for their outstanding 1994 season; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Grady Little, manager of the Richmond Braves, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations for the team's fine performance and gratitude for demonstrating convincingly that baseball remains alive and well in Virginia.