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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 314

Offered January 30, 2008

Commending the Strasburg High School baseball team.

Patrons—Gilbert; Senators: Obenshain and Vogel

WHEREAS, the 2007 Strasburg High School baseball team capped an outstanding season by winning the Virginia High School League Group A state championship on June 9, 2007, at Radford University; and

WHEREAS, the Strasburg High School baseball team has had back-to-back state championship appearances, playing in the semifinal tournament last year and winning their first state title in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Strasburg High School Rams won the state title by defeating Grayson County High School 9-5; and

WHEREAS, on the way to their first state title, the Rams defeated J. J. Kelly High School 14-4 in the state semifinal game and Essex High School 4-2 in the state quarterfinal game; and

WHEREAS, the Rams beat out Rappahannock County 10-0 to win the Shenandoah District title and defeated defending regional champions Goochland High School by a score of 13-1 to claim the 2007 Region B title; and

WHEREAS, the Strasburg High School baseball team (23-5) became the second Bull Run District team to win a state championship title in baseball since 1999; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Lee Barnes, Strasburg High School's star catcher, hit for a .495 average as a senior and added 33 runs, 34 RBIs, and a team-leading 14 doubles for the Rams; and he was named *The Winchester Star's* 2007 Male Athlete of the Year; and

WHEREAS, other standout senior players who made tremendous contributions throughout the Ram's championship season are third baseman William Timothy "TJ" Tharpe and infielder Bradley Michael Fauber; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Edward Kibler, Michael Dennis Murphy, Alex Daniel Pfeiffer, Riley John McDonald, William Allen Orndorff, Timothy Edward McDonald, Spencer Patrick Haines, Thomas Jackson Downey, and Derek Paul Buckley also made valuable contributions in a tremendous team effort in the championship games and throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, the triumphant performance of the 2007 Rams is a tribute to the talent, dedication, and perseverance of the players; the leadership of Head Coach Jeffory Smoot and his assistant coaches Joel Morgan and Rick Bowley; and the support of the students, parents, and faculty of Strasburg High School and the community of Strasburg; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the Rams from Strasburg High School on their outstanding 2007 season and Group A state baseball championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Head Coach Jeffory Smoot as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the championship performance of the 2007 Strasburg High School baseball team.

INTRODUCED

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