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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6012

Offered June 23, 2008

Commending the Faith Christian Academy varsity baseball team.

Patrons—Hurt; Delegates: Byron and Merricks

WHEREAS, the Faith Christian Academy varsity baseball team defeated Ridgeview Academy, 2 - 1,

to claim the Virginia Association of Christian Athletics Conference baseball championship; and WHEREAS, in a strong tournament performance, the Faith Christian Academy Lions clinched the school's first state title; and

WHEREAS, during a tough regular season schedule, the Lions won three games, but as they neared the championship tournament, they rallied with decisive wins in a tremendous team effort; and

WHEREAS, Faith Christian Academy sailed past Shenandoah Valley Academy, 8 - 3, to gain a spot in the tournament and defeated top-seeded Fresta Valley Christian School, 5 - 2, in an exciting semifinal tournament matchup to earn the right to play Ridgeview Academy for the state crown; and

WHEREAS, in the title game, Faith Christian Academy scored its two runs in the first inning, with a run by Jonathan Watlington and a solo homer by Eric Hogan; and

WHEREAS, in a predominantly defensive battle, Clayton Carver pitched the complete game, striking out eight batters and giving up only six hits and one run; and

WHEREAS, Eric Hogan, Evan Hogan, and Jason Kelley were named to the All-Tournament Team, as was Clayton Carver, who was also honored as the tournament's Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, other talented players Jason Adams, Corey Atkinson, Mitch Hailey, Brett Hemric, Adam Hopkins, Casey Jones, Deepak Leahy, Ben Manuel, and Austin Williams also made valuable contributions during the championship game and throughout the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the triumphant performance of the 2008 Lions is a tribute to the dedication and perseverance of the players; the leadership of Head Coach Dennis Smith and Assistant Coach Ricky Watlington, as well as Gene Carwile and Lisa Moore; and the support of the team's many fans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the Faith Christian Academy Lions as the Virginia Association of Christian Athletics Conference varsity baseball state champion; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Head Coach Dennis Smith as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the Faith Christian Academy varsity baseball team's championship performance and outstanding 2008 season.