

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 659

Offered January 12, 2011

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Commending the Altavista Combined School boys' cross country team.

Patrons—Byron; Senator: Stanley

WHEREAS, the Altavista Combined School boys' cross country team won the Virginia High School Group A championship on November 13, 2010; and

WHEREAS, on the way to the state championship, the Altavista boys' cross country team won their third straight Dogwood District championship, beating Appomattox High School by 79 points, and were runners-up at the Region B meet; and

WHEREAS, the Altavista Colonels then defeated Lebanon High School in a closely run contest to take home the school's first state championship in cross country; and

WHEREAS, among a field of 125 runners on a flat course with few hills, senior Daniel Blanks finished fourth while freshman Sean Farney placed fifth, both setting individual bests; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Blanks, Sean Farney, and Forster McCracken all placed on the all-state team for their outstanding performances throughout the season and championship meets; and

WHEREAS, the entire team—Daniel Blanks, Jesse Bowling, Jeff Bryant, Cameron Branning, Jacob Davis, Stephen Mattox, David West, Cody Smith, Austin Hall, Matt Shaw, Sean Farney, Forster McCracken, and Dylan Allen—trained hard throughout the entire season; and

WHEREAS, inspiring the Colonels throughout the season was the memory of former teammate, Devin Kirby, to whom the season was dedicated; and

WHEREAS, the spectacular performance of the Altavista Combined School boys' cross country team is a tribute to the talent, dedication, and perseverance of the team members; the leadership of Coach Darryl Smith and his staff; and the support of the students, faculty, and parents of Altavista Combined School; and

WHEREAS, with five of the seven runners who participated at the state meet returning next season, the Altavista Colonels will continue with their training in anticipation of another winning season; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Altavista Combined School boys' cross country team on winning the Virginia High School Group A state 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 Darryl Smith as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the team's outstanding season.

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