

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 58

Offered January 19, 2011

Commending Sam Chelanga.

Patrons—Garrett, Abbitt, Cline and Putney

WHEREAS, Sam Chelanga capped his impressive collegiate career at Liberty University by winning his second consecutive individual National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men's cross country championship; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 Sam Chelanga raced far ahead of the pack to win the individual National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I men's cross country championship; and

WHEREAS, in addition to winning the cross country championship in 2009, Sam Chelanga won the 2009 NCAA Division I men's outdoor track championship, and is a 10-time All-American; and

WHEREAS, after pulling far ahead of the competition at the eight kilometer marker in the 2009 cross country championship race, Sam Chelanga felt his victory lacked the crowd-pleasing feel of a last-second win; and

WHEREAS, with 20-mile-per-hour headwinds wearing down their opponents at the 2010 national championship meet, Sam Chelanga and two other leaders pulled ahead together on the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course; and

WHEREAS, running shoulder-to-shoulder with his closest opponent until the last 200 meters of the race, Sam Chelanga suddenly burst ahead to claim a solid lead at the end of the race; and

WHEREAS, with a race time of 29 minutes, 22.2 seconds for 10 kilometers, Sam Chelanga captured the first place finish and his second consecutive championship; and

WHEREAS, Liberty University Coach Brant Tolsma commended Sam Chelanga for conserving his energy during long races and developing intelligent race strategies; and

WHEREAS, Sam Chelanga has harnessed his individual drive and worked to develop his potential as an athlete with the support of his family and his coaches, teammates, and friends at Liberty University; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Sam Chelanga hereby be commended for winning his second consecutive individual NCAA Division I men's cross country championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sam Chelanga as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for his outstanding collegiate cross country career.

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