

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 245

Commending the Washington-Lee High School boys' soccer team.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 12, 2017

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee High School boys' soccer team of Arlington achieved its first state title in the 52-year history of the program, winning the Virginia High School League Group 6A state championship; and

WHEREAS, defeating the First Colonial High School Patriots of Virginia Beach by a score of 3-1, the Washington-Lee Generals finished the season with an 18-1-2 record; and

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee Generals struck early with two goals by three-time *Washington Post* All-Met forward Maycol Nunez, who overcame four defenders and a fall to the turf to strike the ball past the goalkeeper into the far side of the net for the first goal; and

WHEREAS, Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year and *Washington Post* All-Met Boys' Soccer Player of the Year forward Lucas Mendes crossed a rabona kick past a defender to forward Andrew Kamian in the box, contributing to a goal by midfielder Benhur Gebretensaie to bring the score to 3-1 in the 74th minute; and

WHEREAS, Lucas Mendes' rabona cross assist was featured as the number nine highlight of the Top Ten Plays on ESPN's *Sports Center*; and

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee Generals won the 6A North regional title, defeating Arlington rival Yorktown by a score of 3-0 to secure the program's third regional title and the first since 1972; and

WHEREAS, a goal by midfielder Thomas Odlum in the 23rd minute brought the score to 1-0 and set the tone for the regional game, which the Washington-Lee Generals controlled on both offense and defense; and

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee Generals earned the number one seed in the Conference 6 tournament for the third straight year and were undefeated in the Liberty District, their third consecutive regular season without a loss; and

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee Generals captured the Arlington Cup, defeating neighborhood rivals Wakefield and Yorktown High Schools during regular season play; and

WHEREAS, under the able leadership of the Virginia High School League Group 6A Boys Coach of the Year, Jimmy Carrasquillo, in his 17th year as boys' soccer head coach, the Washington-Lee Generals worked through the challenge of meeting high expectations after two previous years marked by injuries and unmet goals, then adversity following a semifinal conference tournament loss to archrival Yorktown, to eventually claim the regional and state titles; and

WHEREAS, the Washington-Lee boys' soccer team, ranked number one by the *Washington Post* and number two nationally, reestablished itself as one of the state's premier programs, continuing a winning tradition begun under legendary coach Del Norwood in 1964; and

WHEREAS, the victory is a testament to the athletic skill and hard work of teammates Nick Conklu, Chris Palacios, Isaac Gamboa, Alex Bobeczko, Colin McEwen, Alejandro Maldonado, Jacob Muskovitz, Lucas Mendes, Harrison Ramos, Abdullah Al-Rubaiy, Geronimo Kurzbach, Maycol Nunez, Andrew Kamian, Noah Goodkind, Marty Hockey, Thomas Odlum, Tyler Smuthkochurn, Jose Argueta, Tucker Kelsch, Oliver Loayza, Benhur Gebretensaie, Aidan Pond, and Julian Esquer-Perez; the guidance of the coaches and staff; and the passionate support of the entire Washington-Lee community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Washington-Lee High School boys' soccer team on winning the Virginia High School League Group 6A state tournament; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jimmy Carrasquillo, head coach of the Washington-Lee High School boys' soccer team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's accomplishments.

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