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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 231

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending the Hopewell High School girls' basketball team.

Patrons—Dance; Delegates: Aird and Ingram

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WHEREAS, the Hopewell High School girls' basketball team won the Virginia High School League Region 3A championship on February 23, 2018, securing its second straight region title; and

WHEREAS, the region championship came on the heels of a fantastic season for the Hopewell High School Blue Devils, who routinely dominated their opponents on their way to recording a 22-1 record; and

WHEREAS, in the region title game, the Hopewell Blue Devils continued their superb team play and defeated the Tabb High School Tigers 59-36; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Blue Devils claimed an early advantage in the region championship thanks to a flurry of baskets from Messiah Hunter and Tyjana Simmons and excellent rebounding from Alena Pelham and Imani Edmonds; at halftime, the Blue Devils had a 30-21 lead; and

WHEREAS, in the second half, the Hopewell Blue Devils continued to rack up points and put the Tabb Tigers under relentless defensive pressure; the Blue Devils ultimately added more than 20 points to their lead in the fourth quarter; and

WHEREAS, freshman Messiah Hunter ended the game as the Hopewell Blue Devils' top scorer with 21 points; other standout players included Tyjana Simmons with 13 points and Imani Edmonds with 11 points; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Blue Devils have advanced to the Virginia High School League state tournament, where they will face William Monroe High School in the first round; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell High School girls' basketball team's region championship victory is a tribute to the skill and determination of all of its student-athletes, the excellent guidance of coaches and staff, and the enthusiastic support of the entire Hopewell High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Hopewell High School girls' basketball team on winning the 2018 Virginia High School League Region 3A championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jackie Edmonds, head coach of the Hopewell High School girls' basketball team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's outstanding season and best wishes for continued success.