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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending the Salem High School football team.

Patron—Suetterlein

WHEREAS, the Salem High School football team won the Virginia High School League Class 4A state championship on December 10, 2017, at The College of William and Mary, claiming its third straight state title and the ninth state title in the program's history; and

WHEREAS, the Salem High School Spartans' three-peat in the title game came on the heels of an extraordinary season in which they went 13-2 and routinely dominated opponents with a stout defense and a clinical offense that averaged over 40 points per contest; and

WHEREAS, the Salem Spartans' running and passing game continued to fire on all cylinders in the state championship game as they defeated the previously unbeaten Louisa County Lions 43-22; and

WHEREAS, in a state final that was delayed 24 hours by snow, the Salem Spartans charged out of the gate, recording 21 first quarter points; quarterback Jack Gladden found receiver Joe Quinn for the first touchdown, safety Nick Wade returned an interception 45 yards for the second, and fullback Tae Hale scored the third off a two-yard run; and

WHEREAS, the Salem Spartans scored another touchdown in the third quarter with a 12-yard pass from Jack Gladden to Joe Quinn, but the Louisa Lions then bounced back, scoring 16 unanswered points and narrowing the Spartans' lead to 28-22; and

WHEREAS, in a tense fourth quarter, the Salem Spartans made a crucial fourth down stop in their own half before running back De'Angelo Ramsey broke free for an impressive 79-yard touchdown sprint; Tae Hall then sealed the victory with a 31-yard touchdown run with just 2:13 left in the game; and

WHEREAS, by winning their third straight state title, the Salem Spartans solidified their reputation as a high school football powerhouse; over the last four seasons, the team has an astonishing 54-4 record; and

WHEREAS, four Salem Spartans players were named to the Virginia High School League Class 4 first team, and head coach Stephen Magenbauer was named Class 4 football coach of the year; and

WHEREAS, the Salem High School football team's championship victory is a testament to the skill and dedication of its student-athletes, the exceptional guidance of its coaches and staff, and the enthusiastic support of family members, friends, and the entire Salem High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Salem High School football team hereby be commended on winning the Virginia High School League Class 4A state title; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Stephen Magenbauer, head coach of the Salem High School football team, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the team's spectacular season.