

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 81

Commending the Wakefield High School boys' basketball team.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2018

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School boys' basketball team of Arlington County won the Virginia High School League Region 5C North championship on February 23, 2018, the 10th regional victory in the program's history; and

WHEREAS, making their seventh-straight regional tournament appearance, the Wakefield High School Warriors defeated the Edison High School Eagles in the regional final by a score of 64-62; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield Warriors then advanced through the state tournament to their first state final since 1961, and completed their 2017-2018 season as state runner-up after a valiant effort and a close finish; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield Warriors' successful season was brought into action through the hard work and talent of all the players: James Clark (18), A'Mari Cooper (18), Mahmoud Eltaher (18), Jaylon Fall (18), Lukas Hatcher (18), Jared Watkins (19), Aaron Queen (20), Jonathan Parker (18), Ben Horsford (18), Dell Robertson (19), Mekhi Short (19), Tem Ugtakbayar (18), Chris Warner (19), Brody Karton (19), Gabe Tham (19), Rob Starkey (19), and Xavier Evans (20); and

WHEREAS, Wakefield High School forward A'Mari Cooper was honored as the 5C District Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year, as well as the 5C Region Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Wakefield High School's Ben Horsford was named to the All-District First Team, All-District Defensive First Team, and All-Region First Team; Chris Warner was named to the All-District First Team and the All-Region Second Team; Gabe Tham was named to the All-District Second Team; and Lukas Hatcher received an honorable mention; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield Warriors were ably led and supported by varsity head coach Tony Bentley, who was named 5C District Coach of the Year and 5C Region Coach of the Year; assistant varsity coaches Horace Willis and Tre' Ford; junior varsity coach Dwayne Rumber; freshman coach Kenny James; and team managers Devin Finlay and Allison Ferrell; and

WHEREAS, the successful season is a testament to the skill and hard work of all of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of coaches and staff, and the enthusiastic support of the entire Wakefield High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Wakefield High School boys' basketball team hereby be commended on winning the Virginia High School League Region 5C North championship in 2018; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tony Bentley, varsity head coach of the Wakefield High School boys' basketball team, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the team's accomplishments and best wishes for the future.

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