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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 604

Offered January 9, 2019 Prefiled December 17, 2018

Commending the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team.

Patrons—Thomas, Cole and Orrock; Senators: Reeves and Stuart

WHEREAS, the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team claimed a historic national title with a win in the USA Rugby Men's Division 1-AA national championship on May 5, 2018; and

WHEREAS, entering the season as an underdog, the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team, known as "Mother's Rugby," dominated the Chesapeake Conference and defeated the team from St. Joseph's University in the 2017 fall championship to advance to the national title game; and

WHEREAS, at the Division 1-AA national championship at California State University Fullerton, the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team faced a talented club from Dartmouth College, which took an early lead in the first half; and

WHEREAS, the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team built upon strong momentum at the end of the half to come from behind and win the game 38 - 30, with three tries from Jordan Sacks, two tries from Harry Masters, one try from Matthew Gordon, and four conversions; and

WHEREAS, the national championship victory is a testament to the skill and hard work of all the players, the leadership and guidance of the coaches and staff, and the passionate support of the entire University of Mary Washington community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team on winning the USA Rugby Men's Division 1-AA national championship in 2018; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the University of Mary Washington men's rugby team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's historic achievements and best wishes for the future.