

2020 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 157

Commending the Saint Michael the Archangel High School football team.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 27, 2020

Agreed to by the Senate, January 30, 2020

WHEREAS, the Saint Michael the Archangel High School football team won the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division III Championship on November 15, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Michael the Archangel High School Warriors defeated the three-time defending champion Roanoke Catholic School Celtics by a score of 22-18 to earn the school's first title in any sport; and

WHEREAS, with the smallest enrollment of any football program in their division, sometimes fielding only 14 players and requiring several to play entire games, the Saint Michael the Archangel Warriors showed incredible grit on their march to a 10-1 season record; and

WHEREAS, the determination of the Saint Michael the Archangel Warriors was on display during their final game of the season, when valorous clutch plays on both defense and offense were the difference between victory and defeat; and

WHEREAS, trailing 18-15 with less than nine minutes in regulation and the Roanoke Catholic Celtics less than five yards from the end zone, Matthew Brown and Melvin Spriggs combined to force a game-saving turnover on downs; and

WHEREAS, marching the distance of the field over a dramatic eight-minute drive, the Saint Michael the Archangel Warriors bravely opted to go for the win on 4th and goal with 12 seconds remaining; moments later, the team sealed the championship with a touchdown pass from Jalen Smith to Chase Wormley; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to the Saint Michael the Archangel Warriors' impressive roster, numerous players received Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division III all-state honors and all-conference honors this season; and

WHEREAS, the triumph of the Saint Michael the Archangel Warriors is the result of the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and teachers, and the unwavering support of the entire Saint Michael the Archangel High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Saint Michael the Archangel High School football team for winning the 2019 Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division III Championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Hugh Brown, coach of the Saint Michael the Archangel High School football team, as an expression of the General Assembly's wholehearted admiration for the team's achievement and best wishes for the future.

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