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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 725

Offered February 16, 2023

Commending the Wakefield High School rowing program.

Patrons—Lopez, Clark, Guzman, Hope, Hudson, Kory, Rasoul, Seibold, Sullivan and Watts; Senators: Barker, Boysko, Ebbin, Favola, Howell and Spruill

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School rowing program saw both its boys' and girls' varsity eight boats place first at the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association state championship regatta on the Occoquan River on May 14, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School girls' rowing team finished their race with an impressive time of 5:07.2, narrowly defeating runner-up Oakton High School by less than a second to capture the program's second consecutive state title; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School girls' rowing team was led by its senior class, who also won a Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA) novice title in 2019 and who went undefeated in VASRA races throughout their high school careers; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School boys' rowing team claimed their title by a margin of three seconds with a time of 4:32.0, a triumphant and redemptive turnaround from the previous season when an undermanned team placed last at the event; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of the Wakefield High School rowing program are a reflection of a years-long investment on the part of its coaches to promote the program in local middle schools in Arlington to generate greater interest in the sport of rowing; and

WHEREAS, the coaches of the Wakefield High School rowing program have made laudatory efforts to develop a team that is diverse and representative of the student body, providing financial assistance and other forms of support as needed to ensure that the program is available to anyone who wishes to participate; and

WHEREAS, the Wakefield High School rowing program willed victory through the hard work and determination of its student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and teachers, and the unwavering support of their families and the entire Wakefield High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Wakefield High School rowing program for its sweep of the boys' and girls' eight boat events at the 2022 Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association state championship regatta; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Wakefield High School rowing program as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the program's achievements and best wishes for its continued success.

INTRODUCED

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