

2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 84

Commending the Cave Spring High School boys' basketball team.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 12, 2022

WHEREAS, the Cave Spring High School boys' basketball team won the 2021-2022 Virginia High School League AAA championship; and

WHEREAS, the Cave Spring Knights went undefeated in River Ridge District regular season play on strong team play including the efforts of River Ridge District Player of the Year Stark Jones; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring beat the Blacksburg High School Bruins in the River Ridge District championship game 60-34 before their raucous Cave Spring Castle fans; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring defeated the Northside High School Vikings by a score of 63-60 in the regional championship with 25 points from Dylan Saunders including the game-winning three pointer; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring defeated Fluvanna County High School's Flying Flucos 72-54 in the state quarterfinal game with exceptionally strong post play from Dylan Saunders that produced 28 points; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring beat Northside in their fourth meeting of the season at the state semifinal game 58-56 on a buzzer beater from Bryce Cooper to advance to the AAA state championship game; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring faced the Petersburg High School Crimson Wave and their well-earned reputation for stellar, physical defensive play at Virginia Commonwealth University's Siegel Center in the AAA state championship game; and

WHEREAS, Cave Spring met the Crimson Wave's aggressive defense with stellar offensive team play including 18 points from Stark Jones, 13 points from Dylan Saunders, eight points from Graham Lilley, three points each from Bryce Cooper and Kameron Tinsley, two points from Skylor Griffiths; and

WHEREAS, Owyn Dawyot had already used several back door cuts while scoring 28 points in the AAA state championship game before making a key steal with ten seconds remaining and the game tied 75-75; and

WHEREAS, Owyn Dawyot then made a key free throw with only six seconds left that proved to be the game-winning shot; and

WHEREAS, Coach Jacob Gruse successfully preached a "We First" attitude that was widely embraced through the Cave Spring Knights basketball program all season allowing the team to rely on so many different players at clutch moments; and

WHEREAS, the Cave Spring Knights' successful season and fifth boys' basketball state championship is a tribute to the skill and hard work of all the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of the coaches and staff, and the passionate support of the Cave Spring Castle and the larger South County community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Cave Spring High School boys' basketball team hereby be commended on winning the 2021-2022 Virginia High School League AAA championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate of Virginia prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jacob Gruse, head coach of the Cave Spring High School boys' basketball team, as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration and respect for the team's athletic achievements.

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