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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 144 Offered March 8, 2022

Commending the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University women's track and field team.

Patron—Ballard

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WHEREAS, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University women's track and field team won the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship on February 26, 2022, at the Virginia Tech Rector Field House in Blacksburg; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech women's track and field team tied Duke University with 86 points for first place in the team standings, marking the seventh time that a single university has won both the men's and women's championships in the same year; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech women's track and field team freshman Victoria Gorlova was named Most Valuable Performer in the women's field category after winning a gold medal in the women's triple jump event; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Baxter, a graduate student with the Virginia Tech women's track and field team, set the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) all-time women's indoor pole-vaulting record, clearing 15 feet and 1.5 inches: and

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech women's track and field team junior Lindsey Butler won a second straight ACC title in the women's 800 meter event, completing the fastest collegiate time in the nation of 2:01.23, a time that ranks 17th in the world, breaking an ACC championship record, a Rector Field House record, and a Virginia Tech record; and

WHEREAS, Dave Cianelli, head coach of the Virginia Tech women's track and field team, led the Hokies to the ACC Women's Indoor Track and Field Championship for the second time in three years and fourth time overall; and

WHEREAS, the ACC championship win marked a triumphant end to a historic season for the Virginia Tech Hokies, with Hannah Ballowe, Rachel Baxter, Lindsey Butler, Julia Fixsen, Victoria Gorlova, Sara Killinen, Barbora Malíková, Rebecca Mammel, Star Price, and Leigha Torino earning First Team All-ACC honors; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Virginia Tech women's track and field team is the result of the challenging work and dedication of the student-athletes, the leadership and guidance of their coaches and professors, and the unwavering support of the entire Virginia Tech community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University women's track and field team hereby be commended for winning the 2022 Atlantic Coast Conference Championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Dave Cianelli, head coach of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University women's track and field team, and Whit Babcock, Virginia Tech Athletic Director, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the team's representation of Virginia Tech and the Commonwealth during the 2021-2022 track and field season.