

**As Adopted by the House**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**H. R. No. 323**

**Representative Oelslager**

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**A RESOLUTION**

Honoring the Marlinton High School boys cross country team  
as the 2023 Division II State Champion.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 135th  
General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate the Marlinton  
High School boys cross country team on winning the 2023 Division II  
State Championship; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable group of young athletes, the members of the  
Marlinton High School boys cross country team have combined talent  
and spirit with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship to establish  
themselves as truly exceptional competitors. With admirable  
dedication, the Dukes have worked diligently toward attaining ultimate  
proficiency in long-distance running, and as a result, they won the  
Division II State title for the third consecutive year; and

WHEREAS, The Dukes' achievements and leadership are a justifiable  
source of pride and an excellent reflection on the runners, their  
families, their school, their community, and their coach, Melissa  
Graham-Perkins. In leading her team to victory, Coach Graham-Perkins  
has not only helped the athletes to develop their talents to the  
fullest but also instilled in each a valuable sense of determination,  
perseverance, and camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, With athletic competition playing such an important role  
in the total education of our young people, we are overjoyed to pay  
tribute to these exemplary athletes and their outstanding coach for a  
job well done. The maturity and experience the team members have  
gained through their participation in sports will greatly aid them in  
meeting the challenges of the future; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of

the 135th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, 26  
commend the Marlinton High School boys cross country team on its 27  
tremendous season and salute the members and coach as some of Ohio's 28  
finest citizens; and be it further 29

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit 30  
a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the Marlinton High 31  
School boys cross country team. 32