

2012 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 447

Commending Emily-Anne Rigal.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 2, 2012
Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2012

WHEREAS, Emily-Anne Rigal, a senior at Walsingham Academy Upper School in Williamsburg, was recognized as a Distinguished Finalist in the 17th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for her impressive community service activities; and

WHEREAS, conducted by Prudential Financial, Inc., in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is the largest youth volunteer service recognition program in the United States and has honored more than 95,000 volunteers at the local, state, or national level since its inception in 1995; and

WHEREAS, as a Distinguished Finalist, Emily-Anne Rigal was one of 234 students nationwide recognized for her enormous capacity for giving to and reaching out to those in need; and

WHEREAS, in founding the antibullying online grassroots movement, "WeStopHate," Emily-Anne Rigal is working to help increase teen self-esteem and combat bullying; the cause is especially meaningful to Emily-Anne Rigal as she was the victim of bullying; and

WHEREAS, Emily-Anne Rigal has worked in partnership with teen volunteers across the country who have become involved with WeStopHate—using antibullying videos and blogs—to spread the organization's message to more than 100,000 followers; and

WHEREAS, Emily-Anne Rigal has given generously of her time and energy to WeStopHate; the online program serves as a valuable resource and helps raise self-esteem in teens through various social media platforms that encourage young people to help each other gain confidence; and

WHEREAS, the strength of communities, the success of the Commonwealth, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, on the enthusiasm of talented and enterprising young people like Emily-Anne Rigal who are dedicated to helping others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Emily-Anne Rigal on her recognition as a Distinguished Finalist in the 17th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Emily-Anne Rigal as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on this distinguished honor and appreciation for her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit.

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