

2012 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 235

Offered March 5, 2012

Commending Willie F. Bailey.

Patron—Barker

WHEREAS, Willie F. Bailey, a captain with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, will be honored in 2012 for volunteering more than 1,000 hours to help underprivileged children in Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bailey's efforts to help children in Fairfax County began in the winter of 1995, when in the course of responding to emergency calls in the Mount Vernon area, he often saw that there were no holiday presents or decorations in homes, even though families were living there; and

WHEREAS, the deprivation Willie Bailey observed, which reminded him in part of his own childhood, inspired him to make a difference; on his own, he began a toy drive at area fire stations and received enough donations to buy toys for 60 children the following year; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bailey's determination to brighten the holidays for needy children has become a county-wide program; currently, the entire county Fire and Rescue Department supports his effort, along with the Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics-International Association of Fire Fighters and Paramedics Local 2068 and many corporate sponsors; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the toy drive provided toys and restaurant gift cards to more than 3,000 children throughout Fairfax County; Willie Bailey's project has expanded to include providing back-to-school supplies and backpacks to underserved children in August and holding a coat drive in October; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bailey will be honored at an appreciation event, sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax, in recognition of his remarkable achievement of giving at least 1,000 volunteer hours to his toy, school supply, and coat drives during 2011; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend a dedicated and selfless public servant and an outstanding Virginian, Willie F. Bailey; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Willie F. Bailey as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for his many years of working to improve the lives of the children of Fairfax County.

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