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12105938D **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 252**

Offered March 6, 2012

Commending the Fairfax Police Youth Club.

Patron—Petersen

Unanimous consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Virginia is a Commonwealth of sporting activities and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax Police Youth Club provides leadership, sportsmanship, and physical fitness to the youth of central Fairfax County, including the City of Fairfax; and

WHEREAS, many of the youth of Fairfax have experienced their first sporting activities with the Fairfax Police Youth Club, thereby developing qualities of leadership, sportsmanship, and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, founded as the Boys Club of Fairfax in 1963 and later renamed Fairfax Police Youth Club, the Fairfax Police Youth Club formalized its relationship with the City Police later that year, under the leadership of Chief Murray Kutner, who believed that youth athletics was an effective antidote to crime: and

WHEREAS, as the community has grown, the Fairfax Police Youth Club has expanded its services from three sports to 12—basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, lacrosse, rugby, running/cross country, soccer, softball/T-ball, volleyball, wrestling, and "Youth Challenge" sports; and WHEREAS, having started with only 47 boys, the Fairfax Police Youth Club currently has over

6,000 boys and girls ages 3 to 19 participating; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax Police Youth Club is a shining example of a cooperative and constructive partnership between a private organization and local government as illustrated in the installation of three multi-use artificial turf fields at Fairfax High School and Draper Drive Park and the creation of Stafford Park, a new City of Fairfax park, complete with a fourth multi-use artificial turf field; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax Police Youth Club is celebrating its 50th anniversary of community service; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax Police Youth Club is administered and operated by an all-volunteer board of directors, including representatives of the City of Fairfax Police and the Fairfax County Police

WHEREAS, the Fairfax Police Youth Club would not be possible without over 800 volunteer coaches, assistant coaches, and team assistants; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the volunteers and the Fairfax Police Youth Club organization hereby be commended; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly affirm the value of sports and community involvement, as exhibited by the Fairfax Police Youth Club; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the board of directors of the Fairfax Police Youth Club, the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, the mayor of the City of Fairfax, and the Governor of Virginia as an expression of the congratulations and admiration for the Club's commitment to youth.