

2012 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 518

Commending Madison Emergency Services Association.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 27, 2012

WHEREAS, Madison Emergency Services Association will mark its 30th anniversary of providing emergency assistance to residents of Madison County in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Madison Emergency Services Association began when local resident Constantia "Connie" Hommann Johnson recognized that a need existed in the community for an organization that could provide food, clothing, household goods, and emergency financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, a visionary community leader, Connie Johnson realized the impact that could be had on the community if local churches joined forces; she worked with the Madison County Ministerial Association to form Madison Emergency Services Association on July 1, 1982; and

WHEREAS, Madison Emergency Services Association enjoys the strong support of committed volunteers and generous supporters, which has enabled the organization to provide tens of thousands of dollars annually to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Madison Emergency Services Association offers a wide array of services, including a food pantry, Connie's Thrift Shop, a client services office, and a warehouse for storing donated goods; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Madison Emergency Services Association received over \$200,000 in relief funds from local churches and private donors to aid area residents in the aftermath of a devastating flood, enabling it to provide critical assistance; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Madison Emergency Services Association began its Families in Transition program, which partners volunteer mentors with client families to help the families as they work to become self-sufficient; and

WHEREAS, Madison Emergency Services Association also built Barbara's House, named after longtime volunteer Barbara Sherman, to house those in the Families in Transition program; Barbara's House is the only transitional housing facility in Madison County and is operated solely on private donations and with volunteer staffing; and

WHEREAS, today, Madison Emergency Services Association continues to serve as a focal point for neighbor-to-neighbor assistance in Madison County under the wise direction of its board of directors and with the generous support of dedicated volunteers and colleagues from community organizations and partner agencies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Madison Emergency Services Association hereby be commended on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lisa Warren, executive director of Madison Emergency Services Association, as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and appreciation for the organization's commitment to helping those in need.

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