

2012 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 558

Offered April 17, 2012

Commending the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Loudoun County.

Patron—Ramadan

WHEREAS, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Loudoun County has made numerous contributions to Loudoun County through its humanitarian, interfaith, and community service initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints first established a presence in Loudoun County in the 1960s as the owner of farmland to produce goods for members and the local community on the site of what is now Ashburn Village; and

WHEREAS, today, the 4,500 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Loudoun County meet at five church buildings in Ashburn, Hamilton, Leesburg, and Sterling and near Westfields High School, with construction on a new chapel near South Riding to begin in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints members meet in 12 wards, or congregations, that are presided over by a bishop assisted by two counselors; and

WHEREAS, the Ashburn building houses the Ashburn, Belmont Ridge, and Brambleton Wards; the Hamilton building houses the Catoctin and Hamilton Wards; the Leesburg building houses the Goose Creek, Leesburg, and Potomac Crossing Wards; the Sterling building houses the Algonkian, Shenandoah, and Sterling Park Wards; and the Westfields building houses the Tall Cedars Ward; and

WHEREAS, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are encouraged to be actively involved in the affairs of their communities, generously support community endeavors, and have received national press for their commitment to service; and

WHEREAS, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints sponsors several dozen Cub Scout and Boy Scout units across Loudoun County, while members work with others in the community to staff the county's cold weather shelter, labor for Habitat for Humanity projects, and participate in parent-teacher associations and homeowners associations; and

WHEREAS, the women of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, who enjoy fellowship and service in each ward through the church's women's organization, known as the Relief Society, have generously supported local organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Relief Society has donated hygiene commodities to the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter; canned food, cash, gift cards, and stockings to Loudoun Interfaith Relief; and food and commodities to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington; and

WHEREAS, the Relief Society donates meals on a weekly basis to Loudoun County homeless shelters and has also donated to Messiah's Market at Community Church, the Tree of Life Food Pantry, Backpack Buddies, and Good Shepherd Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Relief Society provided comfort kits to children at the Loudoun County Family Services emergency center, donated flowers and chocolates to the Good Shepherd Alliance Women's Shelter for Valentine's Day, and provided service for the Women Giving Back organization; and

WHEREAS, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints members helped Balls Bluff Regional Park prepare for its 150th anniversary reenactment with over 80 members putting up stakes for the fences and removing brush, logs, and debris; and

WHEREAS, over 70 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints helped the Sycolin Creek Elementary School parent-teacher association prepare for the construction of a barrier-free playground for special needs children, preparing the grounds and building a retaining wall; and

WHEREAS, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints provided 125 service hours to Meals on Wheels, while over 130 members provided more than 400 service hours to the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum; and

WHEREAS, 168 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints provided 504 service hours to Ashburn Village Homeowners Association by picking up trash and wrapping presents for the Birthday Blessings organization and 147 members provided 433 service hours to the association by numbering several hundred light posts for maintenance work, collecting trash, and painting a Habitat for Humanity home; and

WHEREAS, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints made 20 baby quilts and burial shrouds for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Inova Loudoun Hospital; and

WHEREAS, over 100 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints also picked up litter in three designated areas around the Town of Leesburg, while another 150 members helped clean up Franklin Park; and

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59 WHEREAS, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints provide ongoing help to the
60 Carver Center in Purcellville, maintenance of an elderly woman's home, and ESL courses; and

61 WHEREAS, an integral part of the Loudoun County community, the Church of Jesus Christ of
62 Latter-Day Saints in Loudoun County has helped 12 different organizations around Loudoun County
63 with 1,255 volunteers giving 3,582 hours of service; now, therefore, be it

64 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in
65 Loudoun County hereby be commended for its humanitarian, interfaith, and community service
66 initiatives; and, be it

67 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
68 for presentation to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints as an expression of the House of
69 Delegates' appreciation for the church's commitment to serving its members and the community.