

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 181

Offered February 13, 2013

Commending the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company.

Patron—Ramadan

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company has safeguarded the residents of Loudoun County for nearly five decades; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC), formerly known as the Sterling Park Volunteer Fire Company, was chartered on August 16, 1966; and

WHEREAS, with a call area of approximately 25 square miles, the SVFC provides fire suppression services to the residents of Sterling, Great Falls Forest, Broad Run Farms, Countryside, Sugarland Run, and Cascades; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company is based out of two stations; Station 11, also known as Sterling's south station, serves the area south of Route 7 and Station 18, Sterling's north station, serves the area north of Route 7; and

WHEREAS, operating out of these two fire stations, the SVFC responds to more than 3,000 calls annually and is considered to be one of the busiest volunteer fire companies in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the well-trained members of the SVFC can respond to any situation with a variety of apparatuses, including three fire engines, three ladder trucks, a hazardous materials response unit, two "special emergency response vehicles," and two command units; and

WHEREAS, the SVFC routinely assists surrounding counties with fire suppression support and assisted other units in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the SVFC was one of many units to send assistance to the Pentagon and New York City after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, playing an important role in the response to those attacks on the Commonwealth and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the SVFC spends countless hours training to maintain certifications in firefighting, emergency medical services, and technical rescue; and

WHEREAS, to keep up with the latest technology and practices in firefighting, the members of the SVFC constantly upgrade their equipment and hone their skills; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, the members of the SVFC responded to 194 fires and 92 emergency medical service assists; and

WHEREAS, the members of the SVFC embody the selflessness, bravery, integrity, and commitment to safety displayed by firefighters and first responders throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company hereby be commended on almost 50 years of loyal service to Loudoun County, the region, and the United States; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bill Graham, the fire chief of the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company, as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect and appreciation for the company's contributions to protecting the members of the community.

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