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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 453

Offered March 3, 2014

Commending the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County.

Patrons—Ramadan, Joannou, Loupassi and Minchew

WHEREAS, the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County, a religious institution in Dulles with a rich spiritual heritage and a strong tradition of community involvement, has served residents of the Counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County was first envisioned in 2004 when a Greek family relocated to Leesburg and found that Loudoun County had no Greek Orthodox Church; and

WHEREAS, the family used a phone book to contact families with Greek surnames in the area to determine local interest in the establishment of a Greek Orthodox Church; the first organizational meeting of the group was held on September 22, 2006, with 85 families and 225 individuals expressing their enthusiastic support; and

WHEREAS, at that meeting, Metropolitan Evangelos of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey officially established the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County as the 56th parish in the Metropolis of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2006, the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County celebrated its first Sunday service under Father Patrick Viscuso; in April 2007, the congregation moved to a new facility and celebrated Holy Pascha for the first time; and

WHEREAS, Father George Alexson became the full-time, presiding priest of the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County in 2011; and

WHEREAS, with the enthusiastic support of the community, the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County has succeeded in its benevolent mission to provide a house of worship and fellowship and to teach and live the Orthodox Christian faith; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County for its tradition of serving and uplifting the Orthodox Christian community in the Counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its storied history and best wishes for the future.

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