

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 137

*Commending Cooley LLP.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 2014  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2014

WHEREAS, Cooley LLP was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with a prestigious 2014 Best of Reston Award in the Corporate Business Leader category; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston Awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to helping others and improving the lives of people throughout the greater Reston area; and

WHEREAS, with offices throughout the United States and an international branch in Shanghai, Cooley opened its first East Coast office in Reston; the firm has become a valuable member of the Reston community, often recognized for its corporate culture and involvement in the region; and

WHEREAS, employees of Cooley LLP are encouraged to donate their time and talents in their communities, receiving paid leave time for volunteer activities; employees have supported the Loudoun County Day School, New Hope Housing, the George Mason University Foundation and the Northern Virginia Council on Economics, First Chesterfield Baptist Church, Five Talents International, the Initiative for Public Art, several local chambers of commerce, and the Reston Triathlon; and

WHEREAS, through the Cooley Cares program employees can contribute to local charitable organizations, with the firm matching employee donations; the firm raised over \$1 million for national nonprofit organizations and charitable causes in 2013; and

WHEREAS, sponsoring a wide variety of events, such as the Cooley Olympics and Beach Week, Cooley LLP raised tens of thousands of dollars for Cornerstones, Inc., formerly known as Reston Interfaith; and

WHEREAS, Cooley LLP offers pro bono legal work to charitable organizations and local businesses; each year, over 466 employees devote approximately 33,000 hours to an average of 680 matters; the firm assigns pro bono matters the same level of importance as paid cases; and

WHEREAS, Cooley LLP works to strengthen and support the region by offering guidance and mentorship to start-up companies and small businesses, often free of charge; businesses pass along that generosity and sense of responsibility to the betterment of the entire Reston community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Cooley LLP for developing a corporate culture that allows employees to share their time and talents in support of the community and on the firm's well-deserved honor as a 2014 Best of Reston Award recipient in the Corporate Business Leader category; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Cooley LLP as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the firm's commitment to giving back to and investing in the Reston community.