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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 62

Offered January 8, 2014 Prefiled January 7, 2014

Commending the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc.

## Patron—Hanger

WHEREAS, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., proudly celebrated 75 years of serving the community in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., began as the Staunton Rescue Squad when volunteers from the fire department organized to transport city employees and indigent patients to and from King's Daughters Hospital and help people involved in motor vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., initially used ambulances from local funeral homes, with volunteers receiving first aid instruction from local physicians; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., answered more calls, joined the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc., and purchased its first true ambulance in 1956, a used 1955 Cadillac; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, the Staunton Rescue Squad received permission from the Staunton City Council to operate on its own and filed its charter; it became officially known as the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., and broke ground for its building on North Coalter Street; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., began to receive dispatched calls from the Augusta County Emergency Operations Center and the Staunton Police Department; and

WHEREAS, today, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., answers more than 6,500 calls a year and has 110 volunteers and career staff and six ambulances, one response vehicle, one utility vehicle, and a crash/rescue truck; and

WHEREAS, throughout its long history, the Staunton-Augusta County First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., has remained focused on its mission of providing "the best prehospital emergency care to the Citizens of Staunton and Augusta County"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Staunton-Augusta Rescue Squad on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Staunton-Augusta Rescue Squad as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for its service to the community.