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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5177**

Offered September 5, 2014

Commending Boy Scouts of America Troop 63.

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Patrons—DeSteph, Davis, Knight, Stolle, Taylor and Villanueva; Senators: McWaters and Wagner

WHEREAS, in 2014, Boy Scouts of America Troop 63 celebrates 50 years of inspiring the youth of the Virginia Beach community to become leaders and responsible citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Boy Scouts of America was chartered by the Congress of the United States in 1910 to promote self-reliance and Scout craft and to inspire patriotism, courage, and virtue among boys and young men; it has grown into one of the largest youth organizations in the country with millions of members and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1964, Troop 63 has trained and supported almost 800 Scouts under the able leadership and guidance of 73 adult leaders, including seven Scout masters; and

WHEREAS, 134 members of Troop 63 have attained the organization's highest rank of Eagle Scout by earning at least 21 merit badges and planning and completing a service project to enhance the community; and

WHEREAS, throughout its 50-year history, Troop 63 has conducted vigorous outdoor programs and activities, including more than 1,500 nights of camping, and the troop has long been a positive force in the community, with members volunteering over 44,000 service hours; and

WHEREAS, the members of Troop 63 have enhanced the community by participating in service projects at local parks, churches, and schools; worked to preserve the environment through Save the Bay programs; and served meals to members of the community in need; and

WHEREAS, with the help of Francis Asbury United Methodist Church and countless volunteers, committee members, and parents, Troop 63 has carried on a proud tradition of providing outdoor experiences, opportunities for service, and mentorship and succeeded in its mission to produce responsible young men who are guided by Scout Oath and Law; and

WHEREAS, Troop 63 will commemorate its 50th anniversary with a celebration at Francis Asbury United Methodist Church on September 7, 2014; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Boy Scouts of America Troop 63 for its contributions to the Virginia Beach community on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Boy Scouts of America Troop 63 as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its long tradition of service to the youth and residents of Virginia Beach.