HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 658

Commending the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna celebrates 60 years of working to ensure that children in Vienna have the tools and support to achieve their full potential as members of the community; and

WHEREAS, a branch of Optimist International, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna was established in 1955 and promotes optimism as a life philosophy; the organization works with youths to foster an active interest in civics, respect for the law, and patriotism and to enhance the overall well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna conducts community service projects and supports youths through scholarships, awards, academic competitions, and sponsorships for school activities and clubs: and

WHEREAS, among its many community service initiatives, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna organizes and operates the Saturday Vienna Farmer's Market and an annual Christmas tree sale, with proceeds directly benefiting Vienna children through the organization's Youth Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna also sponsors the annual Family Fun Day, which includes a 5K race; proceeds of the event benefit Growing Hope, a local nonprofit that provides educational, social, and financial support to children with cancer and their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna on the occasion of its 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dick Gongaware, president of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its proud tradition of dedicated service to the community.