

## 2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 694

*Commending the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department.*

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

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department celebrates its 50th anniversary of providing fire protection, emergency assistance, and fire prevention education to the people and businesses of Wythe County; and

WHEREAS, after serious fires at construction sites that were far away from the existing fire station in Wytheville and hard to reach, the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1965 by county residents to serve the eastern part of Wythe County; and

WHEREAS, Bill Morris, who was the station's first chief, persuaded some of his friends and neighbors to help form the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department; he was a firefighter at the Radford ammunition plant and had been a member of the fire department in Wytheville; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are 28 active members of the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department; Bill Morris's son, Dave, recently retired as fire chief, and his son, Jason Morris, is the third generation of the family to serve on the volunteer force; and

WHEREAS, the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department answered 150 emergency calls in 2014; structure fires, vehicle fires, automobile accidents, extrications, and assisting with hazardous materials cleanup are examples of the types of calls the department receives; and

WHEREAS, the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department recently purchased a new rescue pumper truck with specialized extrication equipment, enabling the firefighters to provide better service to the community; and

WHEREAS, among the changes that have occurred in Wythe County in the last 50 years are the construction of two interstate highways and the establishment of several large factories; members of the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department train to meet all sorts of emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department is funded by the Wythe County Board of Supervisors, United Way of Wythe County, and donations from the community; several fundraisers also are held each year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department for 50 years of providing fire protection, emergency assistance, and fire prevention education to the people and businesses of Wythe County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rodney Haywood, chief of the Max Meadows Volunteer Fire Department, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and appreciation for the department's many years of dedicated service to the people of Wythe County.

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