

2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 283

Commending the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 26, 2015

WHEREAS, the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department has been serving the community since 1944, protecting the lives and property of the residents of Ashburn and Loudoun County; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department (AVFRD) is to protect lives by providing the best possible fire, rescue, emergency, and medical response services; the department also strives to be an active part of the community and is proactive in its campaigns promoting fire safety, education, and prevention; and

WHEREAS, a Baptist minister in the area and a small group of citizens formed the Ashburn Volunteer Fire Company in 1944 after two tragic fires in the community; fundraising efforts began in 1945, and the company's first truck, a 1929 pumper, was purchased in November; and

WHEREAS, until the Ashburn Volunteer Fire Company built a firehouse in 1947, the pumper was housed in a shed during warm weather and in a cow barn during the winter, where heat generated by the cattle kept the vehicle from freezing; and

WHEREAS, in 1946, members of the Ashburn Volunteer Fire Company recorded 11 fire calls in a rural area that had many dairy farms; throughout the remainder of the 20th century, the farmland in and around Ashburn was transformed into suburban communities of houses, townhomes, businesses, shopping centers, and parks; and

WHEREAS, rescue services eventually were added to the company's responsibilities, and its name was changed to the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department; today, the AVFRD has 200 active members; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated volunteer emergency responders of the AVFRD work in tandem with career firefighters; the volunteers staff two fire stations nightly, one in Ashburn and one in Lansdowne, protecting and serving the community they call home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department hereby be commended for protecting the lives and property of the residents of Ashburn and Loudoun County for more than 70 years; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the chief of the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect and admiration for the tireless efforts and dedication of the members of the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.

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