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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 277

Offered February 9, 2016

Commending Amy's Amigos.

Patrons—Plum; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, Amy's Amigos, a student-founded and student-run organization that raises funds for childhood cancer research, was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with the prestigious 2016 Best of Reston Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award; and

WHEREAS, the Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award is given in memory of two past Best of Reston honorees who played a special role in the development, growth, and work of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc. (formerly Reston Interfaith), and who shared a special passion and gift for mentoring and inspiring young people and future leaders; and

WHEREAS, Amy's Amigos started in 2006 when 50 pupils from Hunter's Woods Elementary School formed a Relay for Life team to raise money in honor of a classmate with brain cancer; in the years following the successful fund-raising event for the American Cancer Society, the group continued to focus on doing more to honor their friend, Amy Boyle; and

WHEREAS, six years ago, three members of Amy's Amigos, who by then were freshmen at South Lakes High School, organized a youth triathlon to help raise awareness of pediatric brain cancer; the event also served to honor Amy Boyle's determination and enthusiasm for youth fitness; and

WHEREAS, Amy's Amigos has sponsored the Reston Be AMYzing Youth Triathlon for the past five years; the race, which is for children ages six to 15, has raised more than \$87,000 for the Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation and the American Cancer Society and has become a Mother's Day tradition in Reston; and

WHEREAS, Amy's Amigos has created leadership opportunities for Reston's young people; the leaders of Amy's Amigos are high school students, and 15 of the 30 committee chairs also are high school students, all of whom learn effective communication, project management, fund-raising, and time management skills; and

WHEREAS, Amy's Amigos and its Be AMYzing Youth Triathlon encourage young people in Reston to stay fit and volunteer their time to help others; the organization is an admirable example of the positive and lasting impact that young people can make in their community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Amy's Amigos for being the recipient of the prestigious 2016 Best of Reston Vade Bolton-Ann Rodriguez Legacy Award by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc.; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jody Wolfe of Amy's Amigos as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for its valuable work on behalf of children with cancer and for being outstanding role models for the people of Reston and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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