

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 413

Commending the 2015 World Police and Fire Games.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 4, 2016

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2016

WHEREAS, the 2015 World Police and Fire Games, held from June 26 through July 5, 2015, in Fairfax County, brought together members of law enforcement and other public safety fields from around the world for competition and camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, established in 1985, the World Police and Fire Games is a biennial athletic event open to active and retired law-enforcement personnel, fire fighters, and other first responders; the 2015 games welcomed more than 10,000 competitors from throughout the United States and more than 60 countries worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the World Police and Fire Games hosts approximately 65 team and individual sporting events, including angling, basketball, bowling, cycling, darts, flag football, target shooting, soccer, swimming, track and field, triathlon, volleyball, wrestling, and unique events such as a stair climb in full protective gear; and

WHEREAS, the gala opening ceremony for the 2015 World Police and Fire Games took place at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, and events were held at venues throughout Fairfax County, with Reston Town Center serving as the Athletes' Village and Entertainment Center; and

WHEREAS, 2015 marked the 30th anniversary of the World Police and Fire Games and coincided with the 75th anniversary of the Fairfax County Police Department; members of Team Fairfax won gold medals in numerous events; and

WHEREAS, the size and scope of the World Police and Fire Games continues to grow, and the 2015 games attracted thousands of visitors and brought in millions of dollars of economic benefit to Fairfax County and the region; and

WHEREAS, the World Police and Fire Games is a unique cultural experience celebrating the professionalism, dedication, and sacrifices of law-enforcement officers and first responders throughout the Commonwealth, the United States, and the world; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 World Police and Fire Games would not have been possible without years of planning, strong coordination between public safety agencies across the region, and the hard work of approximately 3,500 volunteers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the 2015 World Police and Fire Games, held from June 26 through July 5, 2015, in Fairfax County on the occasion of its successful completion; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the World Police and Fire Games organizing committee, Fairfax 2015, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the event's contributions to Northern Virginia and the public safety community.

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