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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 299

Offered February 20, 2018

Commending the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department.

Patrons—Pogge; Senator: Norment

WHEREAS, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department, a first-responder unit in Toano whose members have provided outstanding service to the residents of James City County, celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department was founded in early 1948 to serve as the first fire department in James City County; that March, a group of 68 community members came forward as the company's first volunteers; and

WHEREAS, originally headquartered in a garage and other makeshift facilities, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department built its first station in 1951 before moving into a larger station in the late 1960s; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department moved into its current headquarters, a state-of-the-art \$6.5 million station featuring improved training facilities and living quarters; and

WHEREAS, today, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department includes full-time employees as well as roughly 80 volunteers who operate two fire engines, a rescue squad truck, a ladder truck, a tanker, two brush trucks, and two boats; and

WHEREAS, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department's dedicated volunteers are comprised of community members who undergo thorough training in fire safety and emergency medicine; many former volunteers have gone on to become professional firefighters in communities across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, serving the community 24 hours a day, the members of the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department protect lives and property across a 70-square-mile swath of the Virginia Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its lifesaving services, the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department is an active member of the community, hosting a farmer's market and a fish fry as well as town meetings and events; and

WHEREAS, throughout the company's distinguished history, the members of the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department have displayed the utmost professionalism in their mission to keep the residents of James City County safe; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the James City-Bruton Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of its 70th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the James City-Bruton Fire Department as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its long and meritorious service to James City County.

INTRODUCED

HJ299