

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 407

Commending the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 2, 2018

Agreed to by the Senate, March 6, 2018

WHEREAS, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, a first responder unit in Fairfax County whose members have provided brave and diligent service to the community, celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department traces its earliest origins to 1947, when a group of locals recognized the need for a fire company in their community; the department was officially incorporated on January 29, 1948; and

WHEREAS, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department's first piece of firefighting equipment was a 1932 Ford truck nicknamed "Old Red"; the department constructed its first fire station in 1948 and later moved into a larger station in 1963; and

WHEREAS, as the population of Fairfax County grew during the second half of the 20th century, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department evolved to meet the increased demand, adding additional fire engines and ambulances as well as full-time, paid firefighters; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department moved into a larger and more modern fire station and meeting hall complex; and

WHEREAS, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department now includes roughly 100 staff members and volunteers who operate two fire engines, three ambulances, and a brush truck and answer several thousand emergency calls each year; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the dedicated volunteers of the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department have recorded over 30,000 hours of annual service; and

WHEREAS, providing life-saving support 24 hours a day, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department's staff and volunteers are pillars of their local community who regularly put themselves in harm's way in service to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department on 70 years of providing vital emergency response services to the residents of Fairfax County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its dedication to the community.

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