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Offered January 30, 2018 Commending the Salvation Army of Loudoun County.

Patron—Reid

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 41** 

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WHEREAS, in December of 2017, the Salvation Army of Loudoun County collected and distributed 1,500 Christmas gifts for children as part of its annual Angel Tree program; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1973 as a corps of the Salvation Army, an international charitable group, the Salvation Army of Loudoun County provides disaster relief and year-round emergency assistance with food, clothing, rent, and utilities for those in need; and

WHEREAS, since 1999, the Salvation Army of Loudoun County has operated its annual Angel Tree program to ensure that no child goes without gifts during the holidays; as part of the program, donors chose tags from Angel Trees which were set up in shopping centers and at businesses across Northern Virginia; they then bought clothing or toys for the child they selected based on the age and gender listed on the tag; and

WHEREAS, once the gifts were collected from donors, volunteers from the Salvation Army of Loudoun County gathered at the National Conference Center, where they sorted and bagged the presents in preparation for distribution; during the latter half of December, several hundred pre-registered families came to the National Conference Center to pick up presents, which included clothing, bicycles, scooters, and other toys; and

WHEREAS, working in conjunction with Toys for Tots, as well as several local businesses, families, and individuals, the Salvation Army of Loudoun County served a total of over 1,500 children over the course of its 2017 Angel Tree program; and

WHEREAS, the Salvation Army of Loudoun County's gift program brightened the holiday season for numerous children and families and stands as a superb example of community members taking care of their neighbors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Salvation Army of Loudoun County hereby be commended for distributing gifts to children in need as part of its 2017 Angel Tree program; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Salvation Army of Loudoun County as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its many charitable contributions to the community and best wishes for continued success.