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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1003**

Offered February 15, 2019

*Commending Nolan Fitzsimmons.*

Patrons—Sullivan; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, Nolan Fitzsimmons, a student at McLean High School, won the Congressional Award Gold Medal, the highest award for young Americans presented by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, Nolan Fitzsimmons received his award on June 21, 2018, at a ceremony on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., that honored 400 winners from across the country; and

WHEREAS, to meet the requirements for the award, Falls Church resident Nolan Fitzsimmons' efforts focused on the four program areas of voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition or exploration; and

WHEREAS, to address the volunteering requirement, Nolan Fitzsimmons spent time at an assisted living home and at the United States Chess Center, where he helped to run two weekly elementary school chess clubs; for his personal development he wrote many essays and read many books; and

WHEREAS, Nolan Fitzsimmons developed his physical fitness by improving his overall endurance through a combination of running and swimming, regularly running five kilometers and swimming long distances; and

WHEREAS, to fulfill the award's exploration requirement, Nolan Fitzsimmons set out to learn more about the United States-Mexico border and immigration by spending two weeks along the border between the two countries, traveling from Laredo, Texas, to Chula Vista, California, and exploring cities and communities on both sides of the border; his trip took him into Mexico eight times to visit seven different cities, and included tours and meetings with United States border agents in three different states; and

WHEREAS, to acknowledge his achievement, the McLean Citizens Association awarded Nolan Fitzsimmons a Teen Character Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Nolan Fitzsimmons, a student at McLean High School, for receiving the Congressional Award Gold Medal from the United States Congress; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nolan Fitzsimmons as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his commitment to service and personal growth.

INTRODUCED

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