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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 937

Offered February 12, 2019

*Commending Omicron Kappa Kappa.*

Patrons—Plum; Senators: Boysko and Howell

WHEREAS, Omicron Kappa Kappa, a historically African American fraternity that uplifts and supports the next generation of minority youth in their community, was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with a prestigious 2019 Cornerstones of Our Community Best of Reston Award; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to helping others and improving the lives of people throughout the Greater Reston area; and

WHEREAS, Omicron Kappa Kappa is a part of the umbrella Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; the all-volunteer nonprofit's mission is to participate in the lives of minority youth in the western Fairfax County area, and to provide them a beacon of hope; members are passionate about being a catalyst for young people of color to experience a brighter tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, since Omicron Kappa Kappa was chartered in 1996 in Reston/Herndon, they have uplifted the community with enthusiasm and pride through a variety of service and civic affairs programs and initiatives led by the members of the fraternity who are unique in that all are accomplished African American men who have made it against all odds, many leading and participating in the civil rights movement; and

WHEREAS, Omicron Kappa Kappa members contribute to worthy causes throughout the community, including at the Embury Rucker Community Shelter and the Reston Chamber of Commerce, and in various local tutoring programs; they are a leading volunteer force at local community events such as the Taste of Reston, Flavors of the Fall, Relay for Life, Reston Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Celebration, Northern Virginia Project Giveback, Dr. Charles Drew Blood Drive, and Fairfax County's Road DAWG summer camp for at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, moving toward their goal of uplifting the community, Omicron Kappa Kappa recently initiated a partnership with Microsoft where members offer hands-on technology workshops for local underprivileged youth; to pay it forward in order to better humanity, the fraternity also provides scholarships to minority Fairfax County Public School students; and

WHEREAS, Omicron Kappa Kappa has received several awards for its efforts, including a 2018 Volunteer of the Year Award for Excellence by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Charity of the Month at Not Your Average Joe's of Reston; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Omicron Kappa Kappa, a historically African American fraternity, for its work uplifting and supporting the next generation of minority youth in their community and on its well-deserved 2019 Best of Reston award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Omicron Kappa Kappa as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the fraternity's enduring commitment to making Reston a special place to live, work, and play.

INTRODUCED

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