HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 967

Commending Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 18, 2019 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 2019

WHEREAS, Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun celebrates five years of providing financial support to the individual programs that provide food for the weekend to students in need; and

WHEREAS, Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun receives generous donations from individuals, local groups, and corporate sponsors to distribute funding to purchase meals, snacks, and milk for the children in Loudoun County who might otherwise go without sufficient food at home; and

WHEREAS, Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun previously donated over \$84,000 to 14 local groups that support over 1,600 students on a weekly basis by running weekend food programs for students in Loudoun County Public Schools; the grant distribution amount has ranged from \$500 to \$51,000, depending on the number of students that the program supports each week; and

WHEREAS, during the 2018 - 2019 school year, Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun served 80 schools and 3,000 students, providing supplemental food through these programs; the programs, open to all students in need, confidentially provide bags of food to students to help sustain them through the weekend as well as during winter and spring breaks; and

WHEREAS, Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun continues to work with local partners to establish new programs and raise awareness about the important issues surrounding hunger that affect many children and adults residing in the Loudoun County community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun for celebrating five years of providing financial support to the individual programs that provide weekend food backpacks for students in need; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the program's dedication to addressing hunger in Loudoun County.