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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 220

Offered February 10, 2020

Commending the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management.

Patrons—Delaney, Hope, LaRock, Reid and Subramanyam; Senators: Bell, Boysko and Howell

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management, which oversees the county's disaster preparedness and assistance, received a National Association of Counties Achievement Award for Risk and Emergency Management in 2019; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) began developing its Family Assistance Center Plan, which outlines steps for supporting families that fall victim to a disaster or mass casualty event; and

WHEREAS, identified by county leadership as a priority during the development of Loudoun County's Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, the Loudoun County OEM was tasked with convening a planning team and developing a comprehensive plan to address the issue of family assistance following disasters; and

WHEREAS, bringing together nearly 20 agencies and partners, including the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the Loudoun County OEM developed creative and effective procedures for responding to such disasters that have since become standard protocol for other localities in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the success of Loudoun County OEM's comprehensive family assistance plan led to the Northern Virginia Approach to Family Assistance Planning, a directive guide designed to facilitate local jurisdictions in the development of their respective operating procedures for providing relief to families faced with calamity; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the collaborative efforts of the Loudoun County OEM; the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Region VII; and the NTSB, all jurisdictions in Northern Virginia have since developed their own comprehensive family assistance plans; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing that family assistance is an important aspect of emergency and disaster preparedness and working tirelessly to have plans in place for any scenario, the Loudoun County OEM has made the Commonwealth safer for all of its residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management, which inspired the implementation of comprehensive family assistance plans throughout the localities of Northern Virginia, for receiving the National Association of Counties Achievement Award for Risk and Emergency Management in 2019; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management as an expression of the General Assembly's profound admiration and respect for its efforts on behalf of Loudoun County, the Commonwealth, and its families.

INTRODUCED

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