

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 527

Commending Thomas Kim.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2021

WHEREAS, Thomas Kim, an esteemed resident of McLean and a student at Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by receiving a 2021 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, Thomas "TJ" Kim earned this award by giving generously of his time and energy to "Operation SOS," or "Supplies Over the Skies," a series of flight missions to transport critical personal protective equipment (PPE) to undersupplied hospitals in remote areas; and

WHEREAS, TJ Kim has demonstrated remarkable dedication to his cause, coordinating the acquisition and packing of supplies, logging an untold number of flight hours, and landing both atop a mountain and on one of the shortest runways in the Commonwealth to fulfill his mission; and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, TJ Kim has piloted more than 20 flights in the Commonwealth, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, delivering more than 70,000 PPE items and ventilator supplies to rural hospitals in need; and

WHEREAS, TJ Kim has brought greater awareness to his project by recording public service podcasts for the Federal Aviation Administration and the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Commonwealth, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like TJ Kim who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Thomas Kim, a resident of McLean and student at Landon School, hereby be commended for receiving a Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Thomas Kim as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit and best wishes for his continued success and happiness.

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