HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 590

Commending the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 2023 Agreed to by the Senate, February 2, 2023

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, a premier network of business and community leaders in one of the nation's most economically vibrant counties, achieved 5-Star Accreditation status from the United States Chamber of Commerce in 2022; and

WHEREAS, incorporated on December 18, 1968, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce has become the largest and one of the most effective chambers in Northern Virginia with more than 1,000 members; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's diverse membership includes businesses, nonprofits, and public-sector partners of every size and industry, as well as visionary entrepreneurs and leaders who are dedicated to making Loudoun a world-class community to live, work, and grow a business; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce is an effective advocate for and partner with the Loudoun County Department of Economic Development and Visit Loudoun, partnerships that have earned local, national, and international recognition, including for their collaboration on the "Loudoun Is Ready" COVID-19 response campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), the nation's leading association for chamber industry executives, named the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce as one of four finalists for Chamber of the Year in 2021, recognizing the organization for its performance and community impact; and

WHEREAS, Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce president and chief executive officer Tony Howard has earned highly valued industry certifications from the United States Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organization Management as well as ACCE's Certified Chamber Executive distinction, the chamber industry's top recognition for professional excellence; and

WHEREAS, Tony Howard of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce was also named the Commonwealth's Chamber Executive of the Year in 2015 by the Virginia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's many years of industry leading programs, business advocacy, and community impact, the United States Chamber of Commerce awarded the organization its 5-Star Accreditation in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the 5-Star Accreditation is the United States Chamber of Commerce's highest endorsement for a local chamber's performance and places the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce among the top two percent of 7,000 chambers nationwide for the quality of its programs, policies, and impact on the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce for receiving 5-Star Accreditation status from the United States Chamber of Commerce in 2022; 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 Chamber of Commerce as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's achievement and appreciation for its contributions to the Commonwealth.