

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 796

Offered January 30, 2013

Commending the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston.

Patron—Plum

WHEREAS, the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith, Inc., with a prestigious 2013 Best of Reston Award in the Civic/Community Organization category; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston Awards were established to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the greater Reston community and improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, first conceived in 1995, the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston (YMCA) has gone above and beyond in achieving its mission to promote strong kids, strong families, and strong communities; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA serves the community through its wellness programs, child care services, and summer camp; the staff and volunteers of the YMCA also strive to embody the ideals of Reston by partnering with other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, when Dogwood Elementary School was destroyed by a fire, the YMCA offered the use of its facilities and programs at no charge; as part of an ongoing program with the YMCA, the school saw homework completion levels reach 100 percent, disciplinary referrals drop by 85 percent, and a major increase in students' fitness levels; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the YMCA and the Reston Association instituted the Reston Kid's Triathlon, encouraging active lifestyles and introducing all participants to sports that could be enjoyed throughout their lives; the program provided training and equipment to children of limited means; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the YMCA is tireless in fundraising efforts, including hosting an annual event that raises over \$2,000,000, ensuring that programs continue to receive funding and that no member is ever turned away; and

WHEREAS, treating everyone with equal respect, the YMCA helps homeless families and individuals, working with shelters to donate memberships and allowing the use of shower and changing facilities; and

WHEREAS, through their exceptional community involvement, the staff and volunteers at the YMCA have helped countless individuals lead happy, healthy lives; in 2012 volunteers at the YMCA put in over 4,000 hours and served over 16,000 families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston on its many contributions to Northern Virginia and on its well-deserved honor as a 2013 Best of Reston Award recipient in the Civic/Community Organization category; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the organization's tireless dedication to Reston.

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