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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 127 Offered February 24, 2014

Commending Boy Scout Troop 128.

Patrons—Comstock and Minchew

WHEREAS, in 2014, Boy Scout Troop 128 in McLean celebrates its 90th year of working with young people and helping them to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, when Boy Scout Troop 128 was founded on March 1, 1924, with John M. Hart as Scoutmaster, it was the first Scout troop in McLean, which then was a rural area with large dairy farms; the population was so small that only about 10 to 12 boys were of Scouting age; and

WHEREAS, Troop 128 was first sponsored by a school and civic league in McLean; in later years, a local Lion's Club sponsored the troop; today, St. John's Episcopal Church on Georgetown Pike is the troop's sponsor; the group meets there on Monday evenings; and

WHEREAS, from its beginnings, the leaders and Scout members of Troop 128 have enjoyed a challenge; in the troop's first year, the group made a camping trip to Annapolis and back; the Scouts hiked the entire distance; and

WHEREAS, except for a two-year pause in troop activities during World War II, Troop 128 has remained steady in its mission to help young people; the troop has also adapted as the McLean area has changed dramatically and the population has grown; and

WHEREAS, the Scouts in Troop 128 continue to meet formidable outdoor adventure challenges; in the 1930s when the McLean population was still quite low, the hardy band of Scouts made overnight hikes to Great Falls in the winter to ice skate—a round trip of about 15 miles; and

WHEREAS, currently Troop 128 has about 50 members, with more than 125 Eagle Scouts since it was founded; one recent Eagle Scout project by a troop member provided GPS mapping for more than seven miles of trails in Seneca Tract, a plot of land over which the Potomac Heritage Trail crosses; and

WHEREAS, the members of Troop 128 continue to carry out a full outdoor activities schedule, including winter camping trips in Garrett County, Maryland, cross country and downhill ski trips, and more than two decades of participation in summer camps; and

WHEREAS, Troop 128, a member of the National Capital Area Council, participates in the council's High Adventure outdoor programs; members attend backpacking camps at Goshen Scout Reservation, camp at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, and travel to Florida Sea Base on Summerland Key; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Boy Scout Troop 128 in McLean hereby be commended on its 90th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Boy Scout Troop 128 as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for its 90 years of working to help young people make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes and best wishes for the future.