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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1067**

Offered February 18, 2019

*Commending Gretna Rescue Squad, Inc.*

Patrons—Adams, L.R., Marshall and Poindexter; Senators: Ruff and Stanley

WHEREAS, for 50 years, Gretna Rescue Squad, Inc., has served and safeguarded the Gretna community by providing emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, Gretna Rescue Squad traces its history to August 29, 1968, when 23 members of the community met at an American Legion post to discuss the impending need for a rescue squad after the local funeral home discontinued ambulance services at the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, Gretna Rescue Squad elected to its first slate of officers David Martin as president, Jack G. Moore as vice president, A. L. Haymes as secretary, John Blair as treasurer, Hartwell Moss as captain, Doug Huntley as first lieutenant, H. Blair Reynolds as second lieutenant, George Holley as sergeant, and Joe Kinsley as chaplain; and

WHEREAS, Gretna Rescue Squad elected George Dawson, J. G. Aylor, Ed Ramsey, Jack Miller, and Joe Kinsley to its first board of directors, with H. C. Brown and Gordon Cocke as alternates; and

WHEREAS, members of the Altavista Life Saving Crew and the Danville Life Saving Crew conducted training for the Gretna Rescue Squad, and Colbert-Moran Funeral Home donated the squad's first ambulance; and

WHEREAS, in its first year of operation in 1969, Gretna Rescue Squad responded to 300 calls for service from its base inside a local fire department; in 1973, the squad purchased a new ambulance, and in 1979, it moved into its own building on 102 East Gretna Road; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Gretna Rescue Squad responded to 331 calls for service with 16 active members running calls, including two charter members, Daniel Shelhorse and Gene Shelton; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Gretna Rescue Squad, Inc., on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gretna Rescue Squad, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the squad's work to make the Town of Gretna a safer, better place to live.

INTRODUCED

HJ1067