HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 996

Commending God's Pit Crew.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 19, 2019 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 2019

WHEREAS, God's Pit Crew, a nonprofit, faith-based crisis response organization in Danville, has supported communities throughout the United States and the world in times of need for two decades; and

WHEREAS, established by Randy and Terri Johnson in response to the historic tornado outbreak in Oklahoma from May 2 - 8, 1999, God's Pit Crew originally used borrowed trucks and trailers to deliver supplies to people affected by the disaster; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings, God's Pit Crew has grown into a full-scale relief organization, maintaining a fleet of trucks, trailers, and heavy equipment and supported by more than 400 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, since 1999, God's Pit Crew has responded to 106 disasters in 25 states and 11 countries, including eight responses in Virginia, distributing more than 200 million pounds of relief supplies, including food, water, first aid kits, medicine, personal hygiene products, tools, and many other items; and

WHEREAS, God's Pit Crew established a local distribution center in 2008 that has donated more than 117 million pounds of supplies valued at more than \$90 million to 1,439 agencies; and

WHEREAS, God's Pit Crew conducts building and rebuilding projects, including at least 38 homes, four churches, two schools, three radio stations, and 14 other projects; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, the hardworking members of God's Pit Crew have recorded more than 524,000 hours of volunteer service on disaster relief and mission trips; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend God's Pit Crew on the occasion of its 20th anniversary in 2019; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to God's Pit Crew as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's work to deliver hope, healing, and restoration to people affected by natural disasters and other crises.