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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 677

Offered February 14, 2023

*Commending the Vienna Wireless Society, Inc.*

Patrons—Murphy, Clark, Guzman, Hope, Kory, Lopez, Rasoul, Seibold and Simon; Senators: Favola, Boysko, Howell and Spruill

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Vienna Wireless Society, Inc., one of the largest and most active amateur radio clubs in Northern Virginia, celebrates its 60th anniversary of providing communications and emergency response support to organizations and individuals in the Northern Virginia area; and

WHEREAS, the Vienna Wireless Society (VWS) was established in 1963 and is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League, a nonprofit organization that is the largest membership association of amateur radio enthusiasts in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the licensed amateur radio operators of the VWS are dedicated to serving the public and promoting the art of radio in the Northern Virginia area and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the VWS has a continuous program of radio-related activities and public service resting on three main pillars, including scientific, technological, and educational activities; recreational operating activities; and emergency service activities; and

WHEREAS, the VWS is an effective and reliable organization that is capable of providing multimode communications for the agencies it serves during emergencies, disasters, and public events; and

WHEREAS, the VWS has provided communications support to many local events in Northern Virginia over the years, such as the Marine Corps Marathon and James Madison High School Turkey Trot races, and this service continues to be a vital part of its mission; and

WHEREAS, the VWS has provided support to local Boy Scouts of America troops to expand their knowledge and proficiency of amateur radio practices; and

WHEREAS, the VWS encourages people interested in becoming amateur radio operators to sign up for beginner classes and to take tests for federal amateur radio operator's certifications; and

WHEREAS, the VWS radio repeaters K4HTA and K4XY support major events, such as presidential inaugurations in coordination with the United States Department of Homeland Security; when an emergency is declared, either one or both of the repeaters may be dedicated for use by the Fairfax County Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Vienna Wireless Society, Inc., hereby be commended on the occasion of its 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Vienna Wireless Society, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and respect for its many services to the Northern Virginia region.