

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 557

*Commending the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, September 18, 2014

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad celebrates 50 years of dedicated service to the Sterling area and surrounding communities in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1964, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad is one of the few all-volunteer emergency medical services agencies in Northern Virginia, with 162 members offering the highest quality emergency medical care, heavy rescue, and water rescue services; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad serves approximately 28,000 individuals over a 25-square-mile area, including the neighborhoods of Broad Run Farms, Cardinal Glen, Cascades, Countryside, Dulles, Great Falls Forest, Lowes Island, Oak Grove, Potomac Falls, Richland Acres, Sterling, Sterling Park, and Sugarland Run; and

WHEREAS, using cutting edge training and technology, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad provides pre-hospital advanced life support care to injured and ill residents of and visitors to Loudoun County; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad conducts technical rescue operations involving vehicle accidents, structural collapses, confined spaces, and vertical hazards; and

WHEREAS, the fully certified members of the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad water rescue team maintain two boats, a jet ski, and a full complement of cold weather equipment for rescue operations on the Potomac River or local ponds; and

WHEREAS, established in 1996, the innovative Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad bike team supports hundreds of miles of bike paths, trails, and parks that are not easily accessible by standard fire and rescue vehicles; the team also participates in public awareness and safety education, searches, and special events; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad serves the Commonwealth with Virginia Disaster Task Force 8, a specialized disaster response unit that can deploy throughout Virginia at the request of the Governor or the Office of Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad has earned numerous awards and accolades for its good work, including the Virginia Governor's Award for Outstanding EMS Agency, the Outstanding EMS Agency award from the Northern Virginia EMS Council, the *EMS* magazine Gold Award for Best Volunteer Agency in the United States, and the Higgins and Langley Memorial Award in Swiftwater Rescue; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad hereby be commended for its service to the Northern Virginia community 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 the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its diligent work to safeguard the residents of Sterling and surrounding communities.

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