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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 140

Offered February 18, 2022

Commending the Middleridge community.

Patrons—Petersen; Delegate: Bulova

WHEREAS, the Middleridge community in Fairfax County celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the land on which Middleridge was developed is steeped in history; the name was derived from a decision in 1766 by the vestry of Truro Parish, including George Washington and George William Fairfax, to establish the new Payne's Church at the "middle ridge" of Ox Road; and

WHEREAS, a 95.5-acre plot of the John Clatterbuck estate was officially subdivided into the first section of Middleridge on October 30, 1969; and

WHEREAS, the opening of the Middleridge community was announced in *The Evening Star* on July 17, 1970, featuring four styles of homes built by Foster Brothers, Inc., the original models of which can be seen on Wilcoxon Tavern Court; and

WHEREAS, in its early years, Middleridge offered a quiet refuge from the bustle of Washington, D.C., while still being conveniently located near numerous amenities, and the neighborhood has remained one of the area's premier places to live and raise a family; and

WHEREAS, the young Middleridge community was hit by the April Fool's Day Tornado of April 1, 1973, and more than a dozen homes were seriously damaged along Paynes Church Drive, Ellzey Drive, Governor Yeardley Drive, Quincy Marr Drive, and Rumsey Place; and

WHEREAS, Middleridge recovered from the tornado and continued to grow over the years, finally reaching 578 homes; and

WHEREAS, Middleridge has a strong sense of community and formed the all-volunteer Middleridge Civic Association, which supports events such as Easter egg hunts, home and garden tours, Halloween parades, holiday light decorating contests, and community movie nights; and

WHEREAS, the Middleridge National Night Out celebration was recognized by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 2012 as being one of the largest such events in the entire county and was featured on the front cover of the August 2018 *Fairfax Connection*; and

WHEREAS, Middleridge further supports the community through its active Neighborhood Watch program and by providing welcome gifts to new neighbors, hosting stream clean-ups, and awarding annual scholarships to high school seniors; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Middleridge have built a strong sense of community and made many contributions to Fairfax County and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Middleridge community on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to representatives of the Middleridge community as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the community's history and contributions to the region.

INTRODUCED

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