

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 850

*Commending the Forest Park High School robotics program.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2025

WHEREAS, the Forest Park High School robotics program in Woodbridge has been a beacon of innovation, education, and teamwork, fostering a passion for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics among students; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park robotics program provides hands-on experience in engineering, computer programming, and problem-solving, instilling valuable skills in leadership, collaboration, and perseverance in its participants; and

WHEREAS, Forest Park robotics teams actively compete in the VEX Robotics program and contribute to the FIRST Robotics Competition through the Prince William County Public School's all-county team, SuperNova, expanding opportunities for students to engage in advanced robotics and technology competitions; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park robotics program has a distinguished history of excellence in competition, participating in numerous local, regional, and state tournaments, including Bruin in the Den, Battle of the Bridge, Roboticon, Parkside Skills, and Prowl at the Potomac, and has consistently earned recognition for its design, strategy, and performance; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park robotics teams have showcased their talents at the Virginia State Championship for many years and, in the 2023-24 season, earned the prestigious opportunity to compete at the national championship in Iowa, a testament to their hard work and dedication; and

WHEREAS, in the 2024-25 season, Forest Park robotics teams expanded their reach by competing in signature events at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and West Virginia University, demonstrating their commitment to continuous growth and excellence in robotics; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park robotics teams have been recognized for their high energy, school spirit, and outstanding performance, earning awards such as the Energy Award at the Virginia State Championship (2021-22), the tournament championship title at the Battle of the Bridge tournament (2023-24), and the Judges Award at Roboticon (2024-25); and

WHEREAS, beyond competitions, the Forest Park robotics program actively engages in community outreach, regularly volunteering at local events such as Triangle Elementary School's STEM Night, inspiring young students to explore robotics through hands-on learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, in the 2023-24 season, the Forest Park robotics program further strengthened the Northern Virginia robotics community by hosting its own events, Bruin in the Den and Prowl at the Potomac, providing more than 100 teams with the opportunity to compete and earn invitations to the state championship; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park robotics program exemplifies the idea that robotics is not just a competition, but a platform for students to develop critical thinking skills, teamwork, and pride in their achievements, while fostering a culture of excellence, inclusivity, and mentorship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Forest Park High School robotics program hereby be commended for its commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education, its outstanding achievements in robotics competitions, and its dedication to community service; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Forest Park High School robotics program as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its contributions to the students of Prince William County and the broader robotics community.

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