HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 950

Commending the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 16, 2005 Agreed to by the Senate, February 17, 2005

WHEREAS, in 1915 Joseph B. Tinner of Falls Church and eight other men organized to oppose the adoption of an ordinance promoting residential segregation in Falls Church; and

WHEREAS, organizing as a chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the nine men, with the assistance of NAACP attorneys from Washington, D.C., succeeded in convincing the Falls Church Town Council that the ordinance was unconstitutional, and the Council abandoned the ordinance; and

WHEREAS, with this notable victory, the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP, the first rural branch in the organization's history, was born; and

WHEREAS, in the 90 years since, the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP has continually challenged the legacy of segregation and the principle of exclusion that spurred its founding; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Branch worked to improve school facilities for African-American children, played a leading role in bringing about desegregation of the schools in Fairfax County, and continues to strive to overcome powerful forces that oppose and resist its efforts; and

WHEREAS, for 90 years, the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP has promoted the principles of equality and justice for all races in Fairfax County and throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of its founding; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on its 90 years of significant achievement and best wishes for the future.