HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 173

Commending radio station WMAL of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2006 Agreed to by the Senate, January 26, 2006

WHEREAS, on Monday evening, October 12, 1925, radio station WMAL, located at 720 Eleventh Street, NW, in downtown Washington, D.C., went on the air with a 15-watt signal with Mr. M. A. Leese as the station's owner, manager, and announcer; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 radio station WMAL celebrated 80 years of outstanding public service to the citizens of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, WMAL has been a community leader throughout its existence, becoming involved in local issues and raising funds for a wide variety of worthy causes; and

WHEREAS, under the umbrella of ABC, Inc., since 1986, WMAL continues to improve and expand

its award-winning programming, website, and community services; and WHEREAS, WMAL is an invaluable supporter of the Fisher House program, which provides "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers, to military family members and our soldiers who serve in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

WHEREAS, WMAL is a vital source of news, emergency information, traffic reports, community events, and weather information for residents, visitors, and travelers in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, WMAL and ABC, Inc., have won numerous awards from the Virginia Associated Press and the Virginia Association of Broadcasters for its news operations, websites, public service activities, sports coverage, documentaries, and human interest stories; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend radio station WMAL on the occasion of its 80th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to radio station WMAL as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes for continued success.