HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 504

Commending the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 10, 2006 Agreed to by the Senate, March 11, 2006

WHEREAS, Meeting Professionals International, established in 1972, is the premier organization devoted to the educational and professional needs of people in the meeting industry with more than 20,000 members in 66 chapters around the world; and

WHEREAS, Meeting Professionals International serves both meeting planners and suppliers to the industry and carefully maintains an equal balance of both in its membership; and

WHEREAS, Meeting Professionals International is a growing and dynamic organization strengthened by the dedication of the staff and members of the Virginia Chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International has recently been honored nationally with the 2004-2005 Chapter of the Year (COTY) award; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International's COTY award recognized the chapter's outstanding leadership, membership retention, community involvement, creativity, and educational programming; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International achieved one of the highest membership retention rates at 78.96%, with four months rating at 80% or higher; and

WHEREAS, a redesign of the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International's website, which added resources for nonmembers considering joining the chapter, resulted in more than 5,000 visits in its first three months; and

WHEREAS, during nine months of educational programming, overall ratings by attendees were 4.85 on a 5.00 scale; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International earned the COTY award during the chapter's 20th anniversary celebration, thereby achieving additional inherent points of excellence and nationwide acclaim; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International on its 2004-2005 Chapter of the Year award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Chapter of Meeting Professionals International as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its many accomplishments and best wishes for future success.