## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 994**

Commending Equality Virginia on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 26, 2009 Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2009

WHEREAS, Equality Virginia, a statewide organization that promotes full equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Virginians, is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Equality Virginia (EV) is a non-partisan advocacy, outreach, and educational nonprofit, which was founded in 1989 as Virginians for Justice; and

WHEREAS, EV is composed of three separate groups: Equality Virginia Political Action Committee, Equality Virginia Education Fund, and Equality Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Equality Virginia helps create more civic-minded citizens by engaging voters in the electoral process; and

WHEREAS, Equality Virginia promotes citizen awareness and active involvement in the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Equality Virginia strives to be the premier organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Virginians and is commended for its efforts to protect families, build safer communities, and end discrimination; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Equality Virginia on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Equality Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its dedication to equality for all Virginians and best wishes for a joyful anniversary celebration.