

2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5042

Commending the Roanoke Tribune.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, June 12, 2014

Agreed to by the Senate, June 12, 2014

WHEREAS, the *Roanoke Tribune*, a family-owned newspaper in the City of Roanoke, celebrates 75 years of making and recording black history in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend F. E. Alexander set out to develop a publication that the African American community in Roanoke could identify with; his dream was realized when the *Roanoke Tribune* began operations in the spring of 1939; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 32-year career as editor and publisher of the *Roanoke Tribune*, Reverend Alexander also founded publications in Martinsville, Charlottesville, and Bluefield, West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 1945, Claudia Alexander Whitworth began working with her father at the *Roanoke Tribune*; already an experienced linotype operator, she had worked for newspapers in New York, Ohio, and throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, after Reverend Alexander's retirement in 1971, Claudia Whitworth purchased the *Roanoke Tribune*, and she remains the editor and publisher to this day; and

WHEREAS, carrying on a family tradition, Stanley Rotan Hale worked with his mother at the *Roanoke Tribune* for many years, and he now serves as the associate editor and handles advertising; and

WHEREAS, in addition to informing and educating the members of the community, the *Roanoke Tribune* has succeeded in its mission to promote self-esteem and respect for others and encourage diverse groups of people in Roanoke to come together for a common good; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the *Roanoke Tribune* for its service to the community on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the *Roanoke Tribune* as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the newspaper's storied history and dedication to serving the community.

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