

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 343

Commending the Falls Church News-Press.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 26, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, March 3, 2016

WHEREAS, the *Falls Church News-Press*, an independent weekly newspaper in Falls Church, has served the community for 25 years by providing local news and acting as the city's "paper of record"; and

WHEREAS, the *Falls Church News-Press* was founded in 1991 by Nicholas F. Benton, who presented a plan for a local paper to the Falls Church Chamber of Commerce; initially, 130 businesses pledged their support to the periodical, which has maintained its strong ties to the community; and

WHEREAS, with a free circulation of 10,000 copies, the *Falls Church News-Press* is delivered to the communities of Bailey's Crossroads, Sleepy Hollow, Pimmit Hills, and Lake Barcroft, as well as the City of Falls Church; and

WHEREAS, the *Falls Church News-Press* was named the Best Remnant of the Liberal Media by the *Washington City Paper*, has been twice named the City of Falls Church Business of the Year, and received the city's Business Contribution to the Community award; and

WHEREAS, committed to social justice, the *Falls Church News-Press* publishes a weekly column dedicated to gay and lesbian issues; and

WHEREAS, the *Falls Church News-Press* is an active partner in community affairs, sponsoring an annual food drive, an annual scholarship for high school seniors, a citywide holiday party, and other events and activities; and

WHEREAS, the *Falls Church News-Press* has succeeded thanks to the hard work of its columnists and staff, including Wayne Besen, Mike Hume, Tom Whipple, and Jody Fellows; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the *Falls Church News-Press* on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nicholas F. Benton, owner and editor-in-chief of the *Falls Church News-Press*, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the newspaper's many contributions to the Falls Church community.

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