

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 451

Commending the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 2013
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2013

WHEREAS, the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP proudly celebrated 70 years of supporting the community in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, nine members of the community—Professor Charles E. Brown, F. E. Segar, Henry Wright, Carrie Morton, George Billups, R. F. Edney, J. R. Armstead, S. Cheeseman, and McKinley Whiting—organized the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP grew in membership as the community and nation faced tumultuous times; and

WHEREAS, as community members encountered economic and educational difficulties and racial prejudice, the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP fought for equality and provided strong support to the community; and

WHEREAS, during its 70th anniversary year, the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP had a "conversation with history," reaching out to longtime members who recalled their experiences and the issues of the 1950s and 1960s; and

WHEREAS, today the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP boasts more than 500 members from all walks of life who continue to work to fulfill the mission of the NAACP in the York-James City-Williamsburg area; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2012, the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP held its 33rd Life Membership Banquet at the Williamsburg Lodge, with former City of Williamsburg Mayor Jeanne Zeidler serving as the mistress of ceremonies and NAACP Washington Bureau Director Hilary Shelton sharing remarks; and

WHEREAS, guests at the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP 33rd Life Membership Banquet viewed a video presentation that focused on its longest-serving members and celebrated their accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP on the occasion of its 70th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Clarence Wilson, president of the York-James City-Williamsburg branch of the NAACP as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations.