D. C. BRANCH OF THE NAACP
1000 U STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

STATEMENT

OF

E. NED SLOAN, ESQ.

FOR

D. C. BRANCH OF THE NAACP

IN SUPPORT OF

PROPOSED RANDLE HIGHLANDS MANOR SENIOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY

BEFORE

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

January 7, 2003

CASE # 16896
EXHIBIT 53

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16896
EXHIBIT NO.53

STATEMENT OF NAACP

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY NAME IS NED SLOAN AND I RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

I AM COUNSEL AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE DC BRANCH OF THE NAACP.

THE NAACP AT ITS MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2002, UNAMIOUSLY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED RANDLE HIGHLANDS MANOR SENIOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY TO BE LOCATED IN THE RANDLE HIGHLANDS SECTION OF SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON.

MANY NAACP MEMBERS AND ITS CONSTITUENTS ARE ELDERLY CITIZENS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM SUCH A FACILITY. IT IS NAACP POLICY AND ONE OF OUR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR OUR SENIORS. PRESENTLY THERE ARE NO SUCH ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES IN SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THIS GROUP. THUS, THE NEED IS GREAT FOR THESE UNDESERVED SENIOR CITIZENS. THIS FACILITY WILL ALSO MEET IN PART THE NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME CITIZENS IN THE DISTRICT.

BECAUSE THERE ARE NO ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES EAST OF THE ANACOSTIA RIVER, SENIORS ARE NOW LIVING IN NURSING HOMES OR WITH RELATIVES. THIS FACILITY WILL PROVIDE SOME DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE AND ALLOW SENIORS TO REMAIN IN THE AREA WHERE THEY HAVE LIVED, REARED THEIR CHILDREN, AND WHERE THEIR CHURCH AND OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES ARE LOCATED.

WITHOUT THIS FACILITY THE NAACP POLICY OF SUPPORTING SUCH PROGRAMS FOR ITS SENIOR CITIZENS WILL BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED AS WILL THE DC GOVT'S POLICY FOR AIDING SENIORS. THE RANDLE HIGHLANDS MANOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY WILL BE THE FIRST ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY IN ANACOSTIA.

THE NAACP SUPPORTS THIS FACILITY.

THE NAACP URGES THE BZA TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED RANDLE HIGHLANDS MANOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY SO THAT IT CAN BE BROUGHT ON LINE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS.

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE THE POSITION OF THE NAACP AT THIS HEARING.



E. NED SLOAN, ESQ.
VICE-PRESIDENT, COUNSEL
DC BRANCH OF THE NAACP