

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1991**

S

1

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 236

---

Sponsors: Senators Cooper; Allran, Ballance, Barnes, Basnight, Blackmon, Block, Bryan, Carpenter, Carter, Cochrane, Conder, Daniel, Daughtry, Forrester, Goldston, Hartsell, Hunt, Hyde, Johnson, Kaplan, Kincaid, Lee, Martin of Pitt, Martin of Guilford, Marvin, Murphy, Odom, Parnell, Perdue, Plexico, Plyler, Pollard, Raynor, Richardson, Royall, Sands, Seymour, Shaw, Sherron, Simpson, Smith, Soles, Speed, Staton, Tally, Walker, Ward, Warren, and Winner.

---

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

---

March 14, 1991

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JAMES EARL  
2 "JIM" EZZELL, JR., LATE MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. was born in Rocky Mount on  
4 September 6, 1936, to James Earl and Edith Batchelor Ezzell; and

5 Whereas, despite a birth defect that limited his coordination so that he had to  
6 use crutches to walk, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. graduated from Rocky Mount Senior  
7 High School in 1956 and Wake Forest University, where he received a BA in 1960 and  
8 a LLD in 1963; and

9 Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. was an outstanding attorney in Rocky  
10 Mount; and

11 Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. served as Solicitor of Records Court  
12 from 1964 until 1968 and as a district court judge from 1980 until 1983; and

13 Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. served with honor and distinction in the  
14 General Assembly, serving in the House of Representatives from 1977 until 1980 and in  
15 the Senate from 1985 until his death in 1991; and

16 Whereas, during his service in the General Assembly, James Earl  
17 "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. was chair of the Constitution Committee and vice-chair of the Human  
18 Resources Committee, and was a member of the Appropriations Committee; the

1 Appropriations Committee on Human Resources; the Banks and Thrift Institutions  
2 Committee; the Base Budget Committee; the Insurance Committee; the Judiciary I  
3 Committee; and the Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee; and

4           Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. was a member of several professional  
5 and fraternal organizations, including the North Carolina Bar Association, the Masons,  
6 and the Shriners; and

7           Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. was a faithful member of the  
8 Englewood Baptist Church; and

9           Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. died on January 30, 1991, shortly after  
10 taking the oath of office in the Senate of the 1991 General Assembly; and

11           Whereas, James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. is survived by his wife, Patsy Wall  
12 Ezzell, and his children, Mark Ezzell, James Ezzell, III, and Stanton Ezzell; and

13           Whereas, with the untimely death of James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr., his family,  
14 his community, the General Assembly, and the State of North Carolina lost a loved one,  
15 friend, and colleague who was greatly admired and respected; and

16           Whereas, all who knew James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr. will miss his great sense  
17 of humor, sharp legal mind, and story-telling abilities;

18 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

19           Section 1. The General Assembly wishes to honor the life and memory of  
20 James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr.

21           Sec. 2. The General Assembly wishes to express its sympathy to the family  
22 of James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr.

23           Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution  
24 to the family of James Earl "Jim" Ezzell, Jr.

25           Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.