

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 35

Sponsors: Representatives Goodwin; and Luebke.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

February 1, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION FAVORING ROTATING REGIONAL PRESIDENTIAL
2 PRIMARIES.

3 Whereas, the costs of presidential campaigns have skyrocketed during the last
4 twenty-five years, preventing many viable candidates, rich in ideas and support, from
5 continuing their campaigns through the entire primary election season on account of the
6 lack of money; and

7 Whereas, presidential candidates spend more of their time campaigning
8 among the people of states with early presidential primaries than with those states later
9 in the election season calendar; and

10 Whereas, both of these factors often winnow out candidates before a
11 particular state's voters have the opportunity to vote on all the announced presidential
12 candidates qualifying for the ballot in that state; and

13 Whereas, the voters of many states are in effect disenfranchised from the
14 process of selecting their party nominees for President because of the growing length of
15 time spent in presidential campaigns; and

16 Whereas, it is incumbent to give every state and its voters an equal
17 opportunity in the selection of presidential party nominees; and

18 Whereas, a national presidential primary would defeat the purpose of
19 campaign reform in that only the best-financed, longest-campaigning candidates would
20 be able to compete among the states, and even then only among the states with the
21 greatest amount of delegates; Now, therefore,

22 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

23 **SECTION 1.** North Carolina favors the use of rotating regional presidential
24 primaries beginning with the 2004 presidential election cycle, but retaining the earlier
25 New Hampshire primary and Iowa caucus.

26 **SECTION 2.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.