

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DRSJR75017-LG-30C* (01/31)

Sponsors: Senators Dorsett, and Hagan.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
2 SIT-IN MOVEMENT THAT BEGAN IN THE CITY OF GREENSBORO ON THE
3 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOVEMENT.

4 Whereas, on February 1, 1960, Ezell Blair, Jr., David Richmond, Joseph
5 McNeil, and Franklin McCain, freshmen at North Carolina A & T State University, took
6 a bold stand against rampant segregation in this country by sitting at the all-white lunch
7 counter in the F.W. Woolworth department store in Greensboro and demanding service,
8 which was denied; and

9 Whereas, on the following day, these young men returned to the store along
10 with Billy Smith and Clarence Henderson, and others, only to be denied service again;
11 and

12 Whereas, these events drew widespread media attention bringing focus to
13 discriminatory practices against Blacks in the South and spotlighting the courage of
14 these students; and

15 Whereas, the sit-ins fueled the movement to desegregate public facilities in
16 this country and led to sleep-ins in segregated motels, kneel-ins in segregated churches,
17 and swim-ins in segregated pools; and

18 Whereas, by August 1961, more than 70,000 people had participated in
19 similar demonstrations across the country; and

20 Whereas, the actions of these brave young people were instrumental in the
21 adoption of anti-discriminatory laws and policies that have led to a more diverse nation;
22 and

23 Whereas, to acknowledge and honor the sacrifices and actions of the A & T
24 students and many others, activities have been planned to commemorate the 45th
25 anniversary of the Greensboro sit-ins; Now, therefore,

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

27 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the courageous actions of Ezell
28 Blair, Jr., David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain to end racial

1 segregation. The General Assembly further honors the memory of David Richmond,
2 who died in 1990.

3 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
4 resolution to the International Civil Rights Center and Museum, Ezell Blair, Jr. (Jibreel
5 Khazan), Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain, and the family of David Richmond.

6 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.