

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR30138-LG-60A (01/30)

Sponsors: Representatives Mobley and Bryant (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF HOWARD J.
2 HUNTER, JR., FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was born in the City of Washington, D.C., on
4 December 16, 1946, to Howard J. Hunter, Sr. and Madge Watford Hunter; and

5 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. graduated from C.S. Brown High School in
6 Winton, North Carolina, in 1964 and earned a bachelor's degree from North Carolina
7 Central University in 1971; and

8 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. served as Vice President, Director,
9 Partner/Owner of Hunter's Funeral Home, Inc., of Ahoskie and Murfreesboro, North
10 Carolina, and was a member of the North Carolina Funeral Home Association; and

11 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. began a career in public service in 1978 as a
12 Hertford County Commissioner and continued to serve on the Hertford County Board of
13 Commissioners until 1988; and

14 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was elected to the North Carolina House of
15 Representatives in 1989 to represent Hertford, Northampton, Gates, Bertie, and
16 Perquimans Counties and was reelected nine times; and

17 Whereas, during his tenure in the House of Representatives, Howard J.
18 Hunter, Jr. served as Chair of the Children, Youth and Families Committee, as
19 Vice-chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Economic and
20 Environmental Health Resources, and as a member of many other committees,
21 including Agriculture, Education, Local Government, Pensions and Retirement, Public
22 Employees, Transportation, and Welfare Reform and Human Resources; and

23 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. also served as Chair of the North Carolina
24 Legislative Black Caucus from 1995 through 1996 and as a member of the Law and
25 Justice Committee for the National Conference of State Legislators; and

26 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. fought hard, and often successfully, to create
27 a renewed State economy that would provide high quality education and health care for
28 all children and that would include vibrant communities with jobs paying living wages,

1 safe, affordable, and decent housing, and a well-funded organizational infrastructure to
2 help produce these outcomes; and

3 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was instrumental in launching a shared vision
4 providing tools, solutions, and a comprehensive plan for creating more productive rural
5 communities on par with the State's thriving centers of economic prosperity; and

6 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. worked diligently for the district he
7 represented and the State of North Carolina and maintained a spirit of approachability
8 where no one was a stranger; and

9 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. received many honors and awards for his
10 public service, including Outstanding Young Men of America; Personalities of the
11 South Award for Outstanding Services to Community, State, and Nation; Outstanding
12 Citizen in North Carolina in Human Relations; and Legislator of the Year from the
13 North Carolina Alliance for the Mentally Ill in 1993; and

14 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was an active participant in his community,
15 serving as President of the Board of Directors of the Hertford County United Way;
16 Chair of the Hertford County Recreation Commission; Chair of the Choanoke Area
17 Transit Authority; and as a member of the Hertford County Chapter of the Water Safety
18 Commission; and

19 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was active in many civic and fraternal
20 organizations, serving as a former scoutmaster, manager of Hobson Reynolds Elks
21 National Shrine, Inc., President of the Hertford County Chapter of the North Carolina
22 Central University Alumni Association, life member of the Ahoskie Alumni Chapter of
23 Kappa Alpha Psi, and as a member of the Elizabeth City State University Chapter of the
24 Kappa Alpha Psi Guide Right Commission; and

25 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. was active in the First Baptist Church of
26 Murfreesboro, where he served as a trustee; and

27 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. departed this life on January 7, 2007, leaving
28 to mourn a son, Howard J. Hunter, III, and a daughter, Chyla Toye; Now, therefore,
29 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

30 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Howard J.
31 Hunter, Jr. and expresses the gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens for
32 his life and service to his community and to his State.

33 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the
34 family of Howard J. Hunter, Jr.

35 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
36 resolution to each child of Howard J. Hunter, Jr.

37 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.