

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 491
Corrected Copy 3/7/07

Sponsors: Representatives Mobley, Bryant (Primary Sponsors); Adams, Alexander, Allen, Barnhart, Blue, Bordsen, Carney, Coates, Coleman, Cunningham, Dickson, Faison, Fisher, Folwell, Glazier, Harrison, Holliman, Insko, Jones, Justus, Lewis, Lucas, Luebke, Martin, McAllister, McLawhorn, Moore, Parmon, Pierce, Spear, Tarleton, Tolson, Tucker, Underhill, Wainwright, Wilkins, Womble, and Wray.

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

March 6, 2007

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

1 Whereas, Howard J. Hunter, Jr. fought hard, and often successfully, to create
2 a renewed State economy that would provide high quality education and health care for
3 all children and that would include vibrant communities with jobs paying living wages,
4 safe, affordable, and decent housing, and a well-funded organizational infrastructure to
5 help produce these outcomes; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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