

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 101

Sponsors: Senators Dannelly; Clodfelter, Dorsett, Forrester, Goodall, Graham, Hartsell, Malone, Pittenger, Purcell, Rand, Soles, Swindell, and Weinstein.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

February 12, 2007

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JAMES
2 FRANKLIN "JIM" RICHARDSON, SR., FORMER MEMBER OF THE
3 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

4 Whereas, James Franklin "Jim" Richardson, Sr., was born on May 20, 1926,
5 to Sam and Addie Pickens Richardson in the City of Charlotte; and

6 Whereas, Jim Richardson attended the Charlotte public schools and earned a
7 bachelors degree from Johnson C. Smith University; and

8 Whereas, Jim Richardson worked for the United States Postal Service for 33
9 years, retiring as Postmaster of the Mount Holly facility on January 8, 1981; and

10 Whereas, Jim Richardson served with honor and distinction as a member of
11 the General Assembly, serving one term in the House of Representatives from 1985
12 through 1986 and four terms in the Senate from 1987 through 1994; and

13 Whereas, during his tenure in the General Assembly, Jim Richardson served
14 as chair of several committees, including Veterans Affairs and Senior Citizens, Children
15 and Youth, and Appropriations Subcommittee on Human Resources, and served as chair
16 of the Legislative Black Caucus and as the Majority Whip from 1991 to 1992; and

17 Whereas, after leaving the General Assembly, Jim Richardson continued to
18 represent the citizens of Mecklenburg County as a member of the Board of County
19 Commissioners; and

20 Whereas, Jim Richardson was appointed to the Board of County
21 Commissioners to fill an unexpired term on August 15, 1994, and was elected to the
22 Board for two terms on December 5, 1994, and December 7, 1998; and

23 Whereas, Jim Richardson served as chair of the North Carolina Social
24 Services Commission, the WTVI Public Television Advisory Board, the
25 Charlotte/Mecklenburg Youth Council, and the HIV/AIDS Consortium; and

26 Whereas, Jim Richardson was a Trustee of Johnson C. Smith University and
27 the Charlotte Mint Museum, a member of the Board of Directors of Barium Springs
28 Home for Children, a member of the Board of Directors of the Arts and Science

1 Council, and a member of the North Carolina State Board of Examiners in Optometry;
2 and

3 Whereas, Jim Richardson was active in several fraternal organizations,
4 including the Masons, Shriners, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity,
5 Inc.; and

6 Whereas, Jim Richardson's other memberships included the Charlotte Drug
7 Education Center Board, Mecklenburg Area Mental Health Authority, Mecklenburg
8 Youth Services Board, Mecklenburg County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, and
9 the North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development, Inc.; and

10 Whereas, Jim Richardson was a loyal and devoted member of his church,
11 Memorial Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, where he served as a trustee, deacon, elder,
12 and as a member of the Social Action Committee; and

13 Whereas, Jim Richardson served in World War II as a member of the United
14 States Navy from 1944 to 1946; and

15 Whereas, during his lifetime, Jim Richardson received more than 250
16 recognitions and awards; and

17 Whereas, in 1994, the main ballroom of the Charlotte Convention Center was
18 named the James (Jim) Richardson Ballroom; and

19 Whereas, for his outstanding service to the United States Postal Service,
20 Congress enacted legislation sponsored by Congressman Mel Watt to designate a post
21 office in Charlotte as the "Jim Richardson Post Office" in 2003; and

22 Whereas, Jim Richardson died September 28, 2003, after a lifetime of public
23 service; and

24 Whereas, Jim Richardson is survived by his wife, Mary Nixon Richardson; a
25 son, James Richardson, Jr.; daughter-in-law, Angela Richardson; and two
26 grandchildren, James Franklin Richardson, III, and Ryan Chase Richardson; Now,
27 therefore,

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

29 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of James Franklin
30 "Jim" Richardson, Sr., and expresses its appreciation for the service he rendered to his
31 community, Mecklenburg County, and the State of North Carolina.

32 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the
33 family of James Franklin "Jim" Richardson, Sr., for the loss of a beloved husband,
34 father, and grandfather.

35 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
36 resolution to the family of James Franklin "Jim" Richardson, Sr.

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