

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1702*

Sponsors: Senators Queen; and Snow.

Referred to: Calendar 5/21/08.

May 20, 2008

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL OF HAYWOOD
2 COUNTY AND HONORING JOHN HAYWOOD, FOR WHOM THE COUNTY
3 IS NAMED.

4 Whereas, during the 1808 legislative session of the General Assembly,
5 Representative Thomas Love of Buncombe County introduced a bill establishing a new
6 county in the western portion of North Carolina; and

7 Whereas, the legislation passed on December 23, 1808, resulting in the
8 formation of Haywood County; and

9 Whereas, Haywood County was named for John Haywood, who served as
10 State Treasurer of North Carolina from 1787 to 1827; and

11 Whereas, Haywood County's rugged terrain features 19 mountain peaks over
12 6,000 feet above sea level; and

13 Whereas, Waynesville, the County's seat of government and the commercial
14 and cultural capital of the Great Smoky Mountains, was named after Revolutionary War
15 Hero "Mad" Anthony Wayne; and

16 Whereas, in Professor W. C. Allen's book, "The Annals of Haywood
17 County," the last shot of the Civil War was fired on May 9, 1865, near Waynesville in
18 Haywood County. The local Confederate forces, composed of Cherokee Indians and
19 local citizens under the command of Colonel William H. Thomas ("Thomas's Legion")
20 and Colonel John R. Love, had demanded the surrender of the federal forces of Colonel
21 Bartlett of New York. They had apparently not heard of the surrender by General
22 Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, on April 9, 1865. These
23 Confederate forces then surrendered in Waynesville on May 10, 1865, and were the last
24 forces of the Confederacy to surrender; and

25 Whereas, during the County's early history, much of its growth was as a result
26 of the railroad's expansion into the area in 1882; and

27 Whereas, the State of North Carolina held its first annual summer teachers'
28 institute at the White Sulphur Springs Hotel in Waynesville in 1884; and

29 Whereas, Champion Fibre Company's paper and pulp mill, founded by Peter
30 G. Thomson, now known as Evergreen Packaging and employing 1,600 persons in

1 Canton and Waynesville, began production in 1908 and is celebrating its centennial
2 anniversary; and

3 Whereas, Lake Junaluska, a 1,200-acre United Methodist Assembly, was
4 established in 1913 and now serves as the home of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the
5 United Methodist Church; and

6 Whereas, in 1926, the voters in Haywood County approved a \$100,000 bond
7 issue to finance the first county-built public hospital in the State; and

8 Whereas, the citizens of Haywood County have made significant
9 contributions to the social, cultural, political, and economic prosperity of the State of
10 North Carolina; and

11 Whereas, Haywood County has been home to many great North Carolinians
12 including: Governor Daniel K. Moore (1965-1969); Raymond Fairchild, a well-known
13 banjo player and creator of the "Fairchild Style" banjo playing technique, who has
14 entertained audiences around the world; Marc Pruett, a talented banjo player and
15 Grammy Award winner, who is currently a member of the Balsam Range Bluegrass
16 Band; and Fred Chappell, an author, professor, and multiple literary award winner, who
17 served as North Carolina's Poet Laureate from 1997 to 2002; and

18 Whereas, Colonel William Holland Thomas was one of the earliest and
19 possibly the greatest lawyer and political figure in the history of Haywood County and
20 was the first lobbyist. His character is central to the Charles Frazier book "Thirteen
21 Moons." He was primarily responsible for the purchase of the Qualla Boundary, which
22 was established as a reservation for the remaining members of the Cherokee Indians,
23 known as the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians; and

24 Whereas, several Haywood County residents have served in Congress,
25 including Felix Walker, James M. Gudger Jr., William T. Crawford, James M. Moody,
26 and Heath Shuler; and

27 Whereas, Judge Felix Eugene Alley (1873-1957) is considered to be the most
28 well-known judge from Haywood County. He held court all over North Carolina and
29 was also the author of "Random Thoughts and Musings of a Mountaineer" and "What
30 Think Ye of Christ?"; and

31 Whereas, the late Johnny M. Killian of Maggie Valley was a lawyer who
32 advised Congress for more than 44 years on constitutional matters while serving as
33 senior specialist in American public law at the Congressional Research Service, a
34 branch of the Library of Congress; and

35 Whereas, Haywood County is home to "Folkmoot," the International Festival
36 of Music and Dance; and

37 Whereas, Haywood County has within its boundaries four incorporated
38 towns: Canton, Clyde, Maggie Valley – the clogging capital of the world – and
39 Waynesville, which serves as the county seat; and

40 Whereas, Haywood County is the only county in the State that has a water
41 supply that originates entirely within its boundaries; and

42 Whereas, Haywood County's natural beauty and proximity to the Great
43 Smoky Mountains make it an ideal tourist destination; and

1 Whereas, Haywood County is known as a mecca for visitors year-round to
2 attractions like Ghost Town in the Sky, The Cataloochee Ranch, the Great Smoky
3 Mountains National Park, and the Cataloochie Ski Area; and

4 Whereas, Haywood County served as the setting for Asheville-born author,
5 Charles Frazier's best-selling Civil War novel, "Cold Mountain," which was made into a
6 movie in 2003; and

7 Whereas, Haywood County has continued to grow and prosper through the
8 continued dedication, insight, and planning of the County's concerned leaders and
9 citizens; and

10 Whereas, Haywood County has a population of more than 56,000 and is the
11 third-largest county in Western North Carolina; and

12 Whereas, plans have been made to celebrate the County's bicentennial
13 throughout the year during several community events; and

14 Whereas, Haywood County's bicentennial celebration is worthy of celebration
15 and should be enjoyed and supported by all North Carolina citizens; Now, therefore,
16 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

17 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of John
18 Haywood and expresses appreciation for the contributions he made to this State.

19 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly congratulates Haywood County on its
20 bicentennial and joins the County's citizens in celebrating this historic occasion.

21 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
22 resolution to the Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County.

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