

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DRSJR55340-LG-148C* (04/01)

Sponsors: Senator Jones.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOUNDERS OF HERTFORD COUNTY ON
2 THE OCCASION OF THE COUNTY'S TWO HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

3 Whereas, Hertford County was formed from Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton
4 Counties by an act of the State legislature in 1759; and

5 Whereas, Hertford County was named in honor of Francis Seymour Conway
6 (1715-1794), Marquis of Hertford, a distinguished member of the British parliament and a
7 soldier; and

8 Whereas, the Town of Winton, originally known as Wynnton and laid out on land
9 donated by Representative Benjamin Wynns, was established as the county seat in 1766; and

10 Whereas, Hertford County's other municipalities include Ahoskie, Cofield, Como,
11 Harrellsville, and Murfreesboro; and

12 Whereas, some of Hertford County's native sons include Richard J. Gatling,
13 inventor of the Gatling gun and numerous agricultural implements, who was born on
14 September 12, 1818; and Robert L. Vann, a lawyer and politician, who became the
15 editor-publisher of the Pittsburgh Courier, the most widely read Black-owned newspaper in the
16 nation at that time, and who was born on August 27, 1879; and

17 Whereas, many of Hertford County's residents resolved to educate the citizens of the
18 County by establishing Chowan University, founded in 1848 in Murfreesboro as Chowan
19 Baptist Female Institute; and

20 Whereas, Dr. Calvin Scott Brown, a Shaw University graduate, moved to Hertford
21 County in 1883 to serve as the minister of the Pleasant Baptist Church and later established a
22 facility to educate African-Americans known as Chowan Academy (1886-1893), which
23 graduated its first class in 1890 and was later known as the C. S. Brown School; and

24 Whereas, Hertford County has a rich Native American culture from contributions of
25 the Chowan, Meherrin, and Nottoway tribes; and

26 Whereas, a number of rivers and creeks that run through Hertford County along
27 with several other places have names that were influenced by Native Americans in the area,
28 including the Chowan, Meherrin, and Wiccacon Rivers, Potecasi Creek, and the Town of
29 Ahoskie; and

30 Whereas, Hertford County served as the birthplace of the National 4-H Club, which
31 formed in Ahoskie and was originally called the "Corn Club"; and

32 Whereas, Hertford County has contributed to the social, economic, cultural, and
33 political prosperity of the State of North Carolina; and

34 Whereas, Hertford County has continued to grow and prosper through the continued
35 dedication, insight, and planning of the County's concerned leaders and citizens; and

36 Whereas, Hertford County has a population of 23,730 people; and



1 Whereas, plans have been made to celebrate the County's 250th historic anniversary
2 throughout the year; and

3 Whereas, this occasion is worthy of celebration and should be enjoyed and
4 supported by all North Carolinians; Now, therefore,

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the founders of Hertford County and
7 encourages the citizens of this State to join Hertford County in demonstrating respect for their
8 history and heritage during the County's 250th anniversary.

9 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
10 resolution to the Chair of the Hertford County Board of Commissioners.

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