

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

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HOUSE RESOLUTION DRHR30237-LG-111 (03/24)

Sponsors: Representatives Justice, McComas, and Bradley (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION OBSERVING THE TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH
2 ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALIFAX RESOLVES.

3 Whereas, on April 4, 1776, North Carolina's Fourth Provincial Congress reconvened
4 in Halifax, North Carolina, and soon after appointed a committee to consider additional actions
5 to defend the colony against King George III and the British Parliament; and

6 Whereas, the committee included Cornelius Harnett, Allen Jones, Thomas Burke,
7 and Abner Nash; and

8 Whereas, on April 12, 1776, the committee submitted a resolution to the Provincial
9 Congress for consideration; and

10 Whereas, the resolution, which became known as the "Halifax Resolves," directed
11 North Carolina's delegates to the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence from
12 Britain, to join the other colonies in declaring independence, and to reserve the right for North
13 Carolina to create a constitution; and

14 Whereas, the 83 delegates present unanimously adopted the Halifax Resolves; and

15 Whereas, North Carolina was the first colony to officially encourage independence
16 from Britain, which was soon followed by other colonies adopting similar resolutions; and

17 Whereas, adoption of the Halifax Resolves is considered one of the most important
18 events in North Carolina's history; and

19 Whereas, the date "April 12, 1776" appears as part of North Carolina's flag; and

20 Whereas, 2011 marks the 235th anniversary of the adoption of the Halifax Resolves;

21 Now, therefore,

22 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

23 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives wishes to pay tribute to Cornelius
24 Harnett, Allen Jones, Thomas Burke, Abner Nash, and the other delegates to North Carolina's
25 Fourth Provincial Congress for their brave action in seeking independence from Britain by
26 adopting the Halifax Resolves.

27 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives encourages the citizens of this State to
28 learn more about North Carolina's Fourth Provincial Congress and their actions and to observe
29 the 235th anniversary of the adoption of the Halifax Resolves.

30 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.

