

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 522

Sponsors: Representatives Michaux; H. Hunter, Luebke, and G. Miller.

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

March 24, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF WILLIE C.
2 LOVETT.

3 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett was a native of Statesboro, Georgia; and

4 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett received a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering
5 from Tennessee State University and served as an officer in the United States Air Force
6 from 1962 until 1965; and

7 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett was a resident of Durham and was a longtime
8 employee of the International Business Machines Corporation; and

9 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett was married to the former Evelyn Shatteen and
10 was the father of two children; and

11 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett was a devoted and lifelong servant of the Durham
12 community, serving on numerous committees and organizations; and

13 Whereas, in 1977, Willie C. Lovett was elected chair of the Durham County
14 Democratic Party, and for a number of years, served as a member of the North Carolina
15 Democratic Executive Committee; and

16 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett was an active member of the Durham Committee
17 on the Affairs of Black People, serving as cochair of the Committee in 1979, and as
18 chair of the Committee in 1980; and

19 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett conscientiously embraced the creed of the Durham
20 Committee on the Affairs of Black People which holds that one should believe in
21 democracy in the broadest sense and work toward community advancement without
22 selfish individual or group motives; and

1 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett believed strongly in equity, justice, and fairness
2 for African-Americans and other people of color, and addressed the issues of equitable
3 representation on boards and commissions; and

4 Whereas, during Willie C. Lovett's tenure as chair of the Durham Committee
5 on the Affairs of Black People and due to his influence, a significant number of African-
6 Americans were elected to the City Council, the County Board of Commissioners, and
7 the Durham City Board of Education; and

8 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett fought for fairness in budgetary appropriations and
9 for changes in the process of double taxation, and espoused the position that public
10 dollars should be expended in ways that reflect where the greatest needs are; and

11 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett received numerous awards and honors including
12 Citizen of the Year from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 1991, Keeper of the Dream Award
13 from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Steering Committee in 1990, and the Appreciation of
14 Service Award from the Durham Chapter of Continental Societies, Inc., in 1989; and

15 Whereas, prior to his death, Willie C. Lovett was elected as a Democratic
16 candidate in the 1992 May Primary to represent Durham County in the State House of
17 Representatives; and

18 Whereas, the untimely death of Willie C. Lovett came on August 6, 1992; and

19 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett will be remembered as a man devoted to his
20 family, his community, his profession, and to public service; and

21 Whereas, Willie C. Lovett is survived by his wife, Evelyn Lovett, and two
22 children, Rodney and Tracy;

23 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

24 Section 1. The General Assembly wishes to honor the life and memory of
25 Willie C. Lovett and expresses its appreciation for the service he rendered to his
26 community, State, and nation.

27 Sec. 2. The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the family of
28 Willie C. Lovett.

29 Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
30 to the family of Willie C. Lovett.

31 Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.