

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 508

Sponsors: Representatives Earle, W. Brawley, Cotham, and Jeter (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to:

April 3, 2013

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOUNDERS OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY
2 WHILE OBSERVING THE COUNTY'S TWO HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

3 Whereas, in December 1762, Mecklenburg County was formed from a western
4 section of Anson County and named in honor of King George III's wife, Charlotte Sophia of
5 Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Germany; and

6 Whereas, before a courthouse was built at Trade and Tryon streets, court in
7 Mecklenburg County was first conducted on February 26, 1763, at the cabin of Thomas Spratt,
8 which was located near what is now Caswell and Randolph roads; and

9 Whereas, in 1767, Lord Augustus Selwyn agreed to sell 360 acres of land, known
10 today as "Uptown Charlotte," to Abraham Alexander, Thomas Polk, and John Frohock, for the
11 price of 90 British pounds; and

12 Whereas, in 1768, Abraham Alexander and Thomas Polk were put in charge of the
13 establishing "Charlotte Town" as the Mecklenburg County seat, an emerging center of political
14 power in Colonial America and in the early years of the United States; and

15 Whereas, the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, the first declaration of
16 independence made in the Thirteen Colonies during the American Revolution, was adopted on
17 May 20, 1775, in Mecklenburg County, as honored on the Great Seal and Flag of the State of
18 North Carolina; and

19 Whereas, on May 31, 1775, the 27 signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of
20 Independence met again to draft the Mecklenburg Resolves, which were new laws to govern
21 the now independent citizens of Mecklenburg County; the signers included patriots
22 representing the families of Alexander, Brevard, Harris, and Polk, among others; and

23 Whereas, the North Carolina State Constitution, approved in 1868, gave the citizens
24 of a county the authority to elect the officials who govern them, called a Board of County
25 Commissioners; and

26 Whereas, the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners has honored the rich
27 history of a county by designating February 26, 2013, as the 250th anniversary of the founding
28 of Mecklenburg County; and

29 Whereas, the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners celebrates, honors, and
30 recognizes this anniversary by designating calendar year 2013 as the year of the Mecklenburg
31 County Sestercentennial Celebration; Now, therefore,
32 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

33 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives honors the founders of Mecklenburg
34 County and joins the residents of Mecklenburg County in celebrating the County's
35 Sestercentennial.



- 1 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
- 2 to the Chair of the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners.
- 3 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.