

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 596

Sponsors: Representative Steinburg (Primary Sponsor).

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

Referred to:

April 9, 2013

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING EDENTON ON ITS THREE HUNDREDTH
2 ANNIVERSARY.

3 Whereas, Edenton's long history as a colonial port and its more modern role as
4 protector of the 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse contribute to the history of the Albemarle
5 Sound and waterways of North Carolina; and

6 Whereas, Edenton was the home of many black artisans who contributed to its
7 cultural development including the Badham family of African-American architects, builders,
8 and carpenters: Miles Badham I, his son Hannibal Badham, Sr., and Hannibal's sons Hannibal
9 Badham, Jr., and Miles Badham II, whose designs and constructions stand to this day; and

10 Whereas, much of Edenton was declared a National Historic District in 1973
11 recognizing the many historically significant homes and public buildings that stand as authentic
12 examples of over 250 years of architectural progress in America: the 1736 St. Paul's Episcopal
13 Church; the 1758 Cupola House, a National Historic Landmark with national significance; and
14 the 1782 Barker House, long recognized on the National Register of Historic Places; and

15 Whereas, in 1918 the people of Edenton, fearful that a significant part of our State's
16 heritage was endangered, created an organization which became the "Cupola House
17 Association" to defend against the irrevocable loss of this historically important dwelling, the
18 first such act of preservation by private citizens of North Carolina and one of the first in the
19 nation; and

20 Whereas, the General Assembly of North Carolina created the Edenton Historical
21 Commission in 1961 as evidence of the unique role Edenton and Chowan County play in the
22 preservation and perpetuation of the history of the colony and the State; and

23 Whereas, Edenton, on the eve of its 300th Anniversary, was defined by Forbes.com
24 as one of Americas' prettiest towns; thereby, awarding Edenton the honor of being the only
25 300-year-old town in the United States to hold such a distinction. This recognition further
26 proves Edenton has retained its exceptionalism throughout its historically significant 300 years
27 and confirms what residents and visitors alike have long enjoyed; Now, therefore,

28 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

29 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of the early
30 residents of the Town of Edenton for their contributions to their community, the colony of
31 North Carolina, the State of North Carolina, and the nation.

32 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives extends sincere good wishes to the
33 current residents of the Town of Edenton and Chowan County on the occasion of their 300th
34 Anniversaries and embraces with enthusiasm the Town's plan to celebrate the occasion
35 throughout 2013. The House of Representatives further acknowledges Edenton's cultural



1 dedication to the preservation of the historic buildings that contributed so much to the
2 development of North Carolina.

3 **SECTION 3.** The House of Representatives equally notes the perpetuation of the
4 memories and stories of the leaders who have made such contributions to the colony, the State,
5 and nation and encourages the citizens of the State to join Edenton and Chowan County in
6 demonstrating respect for and pride in our history and heritage.

7 **SECTION 4.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
8 to the Mayor of the Town of Edenton, the Chair of the Chowan County Board of
9 Commissioners, and the Superintendent of the Chowan County School Board.

10 **SECTION 5.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.