

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 693  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/14/03**

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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March 27, 2003

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE  
2 ON ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
3 FORMER COMMISSIONERS JAMES H. WEAVER AND ROBERT C. JAMES.

4 Whereas, the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) was founded on May 8, 1953;  
5 and

6 Whereas, the original members of the ACC were Clemson University, Duke  
7 University, North Carolina State University, Wake Forest University, the University of  
8 Maryland, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of South  
9 Carolina; and

10 Whereas, the University of Virginia joined the ACC in December of 1953,  
11 Georgia Institute of Technology joined in April of 1978, and Florida State University  
12 joined in July of 1991; and

13 Whereas, the University of South Carolina withdrew from the conference in  
14 June of 1971, the only school ever to do so in ACC history; and

15 Whereas, the ACC is one of the strongest conferences in the nation, having  
16 won 82 national championships, 40 in men's competitions and 42 in women's  
17 competitions; and

18 Whereas, many of the ACC's student-athletes have become All-Americans,  
19 Olympians, professional athletes, and coaches; and

20 Whereas, some of the ACC's top 50 male and female athletes include Michael  
21 Jordan, Tom Burlison, Arnold Palmer, David Thompson, Shane Battier, David Duval,  
22 Mia Hamm, Marion Jones, Andrea Stinson, and Julie Shea; and

23 Whereas, many of the ACC's student-athletes have also been outstanding in  
24 their classrooms and in their academic communities as caring volunteers and role  
25 models; and

26 Whereas, the success of the ACC is a fitting testimonial and memorial to the  
27 administrators of the conference, including former commissioners James H. Weaver and  
28 Robert C. James; and

1           Whereas, James H. Weaver, a former football coach and athletic director at  
2 Wake Forest University, served as the ACC's first full-time commissioner from July 1,  
3 1954, to July 11, 1970; and

4           Whereas, Robert C. James, an outstanding athlete at the University of  
5 Maryland and former commissioner of the Mid-American Conference, served as the  
6 ACC's commissioner from March 1, 1971, to May 12, 1987; and

7           Whereas, for 50 years, the ACC has provided thrilling sports entertainment to  
8 countless students, alumni, and fans; and

9           Whereas, North Carolina is the proud home to four of the nine ACC member  
10 universities; Now, therefore,

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

12           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of former ACC  
13 commissioners James H. Weaver and Robert C. James, congratulates and commends the  
14 Atlantic Coast Conference on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, May 8, 2003, and expresses the  
15 appreciation of the citizens of this State to the athletes, coaching staffs, and  
16 commissioners, past and present, for their dedication to the athletic programs of the  
17 ACC.

18           **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
19 resolution to John Swofford, Commissioner of the Atlantic Coast Conference.

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