

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 197

Sponsors: Representatives Farmer-Butterfield and B. Allen (Primary Sponsors).

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

February 14, 2005

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JOHN
2 WESLEY JONES, FORMER EDUCATOR AND INFLUENTIAL LEADER.

3 Whereas, John Wesley Jones grew up in the City of Wilson; and

4 Whereas, John Wesley Jones graduated from Charles H. Darden High School
5 in 1941 at the age of 15; and

6 Whereas, John Wesley Jones spent a year helping to construct a new addition
7 to Charles H. Darden High School before attending North Carolina A & T State
8 University; and

9 Whereas, John Wesley Jones's college education was interrupted by World
10 War II when he was drafted into the United States Navy; and

11 Whereas, John Wesley Jones returned to North Carolina A & T State
12 University after serving in the United States Navy, earning a bachelor of science degree
13 in electrical engineering in 1948 and later receiving a masters degree in mathematics;
14 and

15 Whereas, John Wesley Jones was a schoolteacher in Greene and Wilson
16 Counties from 1948 to 1968 and served as an assistant principal and principal in the
17 Wilson County public schools from 1968 to 1988; and

18 Whereas, John Wesley Jones served the education community proudly as a
19 member of State and national organizations, including the North Carolina Teachers
20 Association, Inc., the North Carolina Association of Educators, Inc., and the National
21 Education Association; and

22 Whereas, after his retirement as a principal, John Wesley Jones continued to
23 be an advocate for education by becoming a member of the Wilson County Board of
24 Education, serving as a member from 1988 to 2004 and as the Chair for one term; and

25 Whereas, John Wesley Jones rendered distinguished service to his community
26 by helping to establish the Charles H. Darden High School Alumni Association, Inc., in
27 1971, a national, nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to promote the
28 educational, cultural, and social level of the community; and

29 Whereas, John Wesley Jones's success in establishing the Alumni Association
30 has allowed former students of Charles H. Darden High School, who now live in other

1 parts of the country, to communicate and stay in touch with each other, resulting in an
2 annual reunion held in the City of Wilson and reunions held in other states; and

3 Whereas, John Wesley Jones served as the Alumni Association's first
4 president and later as executive secretary to the board of directors; and

5 Whereas, John Wesley Jones's vision to build a community center came true
6 in 1991 when the Charles H. Darden Alumni Center opened, providing a location for a
7 tutorial program and community activities; and

8 Whereas, John Wesley Jones, as a member of the National North Carolina
9 A & T State University Alumni Scholarship Committee, which provided four-year
10 scholarships to deserving high school graduates, and helped students achieve their
11 dreams of attending college; and

12 Whereas, John Wesley Jones was active in the American Legion Post # 17,
13 NAACP, Men's Civic Club, served as treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Hattie
14 Daniels Day Care Center, and was a charter member and past president of the Beta Beta
15 Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and

16 Whereas, John Wesley Jones was a devoted member of the Jackson Chapel
17 First Missionary Baptist Church, serving on the Board of Trustees, Finance Committee,
18 and as Chair of the Construction Committee for the Education Building; and

19 Whereas, John Wesley Jones died on April 3, 2004; Now, therefore,
20 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

21 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of John
22 Wesley Jones for the service he rendered to his community, State, and nation.

23 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the
24 family of John Wesley Jones for the loss of a beloved family member.

25 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
26 resolution to the family of John Wesley Jones.

27 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.