

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

Sponsors: Representatives Womble, Luebke, Weiss, Parmon (Primary Sponsors); Adams, K. Alexander, M. Alexander, Bell, Bordsen, Bryant, Coates, Cotham, Dickson, Earle, England, Faison, Farmer-Butterfield, Fisher, E. Floyd, Glazier, Goforth, Hall, Harrell, Harrison, Holliman, Insko, Jackson, Jones, Lucas, Mackey, McLawhorn, Michaux, Mobley, Pierce, Ross, Tarleton, Wainwright, E. Warren, and Wray.

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

February 2, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER
2 KING, JR. AND CONGRATULATING BARACK OBAMA ON BECOMING THE 44TH
3 PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

4 Whereas, on January 19, 2009, the nation observed the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
5 holiday, which commemorates the legacy of Dr. King; and

6 Whereas, Dr. King was a prominent African-American civil rights leader who
7 fought for racial justice and equality for all Americans by leading nonviolent protests to bring
8 about social change; and

9 Whereas, Dr. King would have celebrated his 80th birthday on January 15, 2009; and

10 Whereas, a day after the King Holiday, Barack Obama was sworn in as the country's
11 44th president and first African-American president; and

12 Whereas, President Obama took the oath of office administered by Supreme Court
13 Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. using the bible that President Abraham Lincoln used during his
14 first inauguration; and

15 Whereas, an estimated 1.8 million people journeyed from all across the country and
16 withstood cold temperatures on the National Mall to witness President Obama's swearing-in;
17 and

18 Whereas, millions of Americans and observers from around the world watched the
19 event from their homes, offices, and public gatherings on televisions, computers, and other
20 media; and

21 Whereas, throughout President Obama's run for the presidency, he served as a
22 uniting force bringing together people of all races, creeds, and religions; and

23 Whereas, many people felt that President Obama's inauguration evoked the spirit of
24 the 1963 March on Washington when Dr. King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech to a
25 crowd of over a quarter of a million people; Now, therefore,

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

27 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Dr. Martin Luther
28 King, Jr., for his many contributions to the civil rights movement.

29 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly congratulates President Barack Obama on
30 becoming the 44th President of the United States of America.

31 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
32 resolution to President Barack Obama.

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

