

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

H.R. 696
Apr 9, 2013
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE RESOLUTION DRHR70264-LG-114A (03/27)

Sponsors: Representatives Turner and W. Brawley (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING LEWIS AND MATTIE THORNBURG WHILE
2 OBSERVING THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THORLO, THE COMPANY THEY
3 FOUNDED.

4 Whereas, THORLO was founded in 1953 by Lewis and Mattie Thornburg, who
5 operated the business in a hand-built building next to their family home in Statesville, North
6 Carolina; and

7 Whereas, the Thornburgs started out as small subcontract knitters for other mills,
8 notably making socks for the United States military; and

9 Whereas, in the 1960s, the company moved to another location in Statesville, where
10 it still maintains offices and warehouse space; and

11 Whereas, in 1970, Lewis and Mattie Thornburg's son, Jim, became president of the
12 company; and

13 Whereas, during his early leadership, Jim Throneburg purchased a dyeing and
14 finishing operation, which allowed THORLO to become a fully integrated manufacturing
15 operation; and

16 Whereas, a few years later, THORLO moved away from contract knitting to
17 manufacturing finished and packaged socks for several famous brands; and

18 Whereas, in 1980, the company introduced the innovative athletic sock, Thorlos®;
19 and

20 Whereas, in 1983, the company constructed a new 60,000-square-foot, state-of-the
21 art manufacturing facility, allowing the company to increase its production; and

22 Whereas, for over 30 years, Thorlos® have been the industry standard for foot
23 protection and comfort for sports, health, and leisure activities and is available throughout the
24 United States and over 33 countries around the world; and

25 Whereas, THORLO remains one of the last 100% "Made in USA" textile brands;
26 and

27 Whereas, THORLO maintains an outlet store in Statesville, which attracts thousands
28 of people each year; and

29 Whereas, THORLO has been operating for 60 years, growing from knitting one
30 military style sock to a line of over 54 patented and engineered activity specific sock products
31 for essentially all consumer lifestyles; and

32 Whereas, THORLO currently employs almost 300 employees and contributes
33 approximately \$10 million in salaries and benefits per year in the greater Statesville
34 community; Now, therefore,

35 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:



1 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of Lewis and
2 Mattie Thornburg for their role in founding THORLO, a company that has a tremendous
3 impact in the textile industry.

4 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives congratulates THORLO on its 60th
5 anniversary.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
7 to James "Jim" Throneburg, owner and CEO of THORLO, Inc.

8 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.