

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 683
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/16/97

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 31, 1997

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DR. JOY
2 JOSEPH JOHNSON, FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson was born in Laurel Hill on November 2,
4 1921, to William Joseph Johnson and Edith Buchanan Johnson; and

5 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson attended the Scotland County Public
6 Schools, graduated from the Laurinburg Institute in 1941, and Shaw University in 1945,
7 and received a Doctor of Divinity degree from Friendship College, South Carolina, in
8 1965; and

9 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson was a minister and served as pastor of the
10 First Baptist Church in Fairmont; and

11 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson rendered distinguished service to various
12 religious organizations, serving as a moderator of the Lumber River Baptist
13 Association, as President of the Southern Region of the National Progressive
14 Convention of the United States of America in 1968, and as President of the North
15 Carolina General Baptist Convention from 1974 to 1978; and

16 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson made significant contributions as a Mason
17 and as a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the United Order of Salem, and the
18 Independent Order of St. Luke; and

19 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson was a man of integrity who was genuinely
20 interested in the people of his community, serving as the first African-American mayor
21 and town commissioner of Fairmont, as Chair of the Fairmont Good Neighbor Council,

1 as President of Lumber River Housing Development, Inc., and as a member of the
2 Organized People's Investment Company; and

3 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson served as Vice-Chair of the Robeson
4 County Democratic Executive Committee and as State Secretary of the North Carolina
5 Branches of the NAACP; and

6 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson served with honor and distinction as a
7 member of the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1971 to 1978; and

8 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson left the General Assembly upon his
9 appointment to the North Carolina Parole Commission on which he served from 1978 to
10 1985; and

11 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson received numerous awards and recognitions
12 including an honorary doctorate degree from Shaw University in 1972; and

13 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson was an active and devoted member of the
14 Missionary Baptist Church; and

15 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson dedicated his life to the enrichment of
16 many other lives, as a minister, civic leader, public servant, and devoted family
17 member; and

18 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson died on December 30, 1996; and

19 Whereas, Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson is survived by his wife, Omega Foster
20 Johnson; his daughter, Deborah Johnson Killens; his grandchildren, Joy Alexandria
21 Killens and Jenee' Johnson Killens; and other close relatives and friends; Now,
22 therefore,

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

24 Section 1. The General Assembly honors the memory of Dr. Joy Joseph
25 Johnson and expresses the deep gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens
26 for his life and service to North Carolina.

27 Section 2. The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the family
28 and friends of Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson.

29 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
30 resolution to the family of Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson.

31 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.