

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1080

Sponsors: Senators Kerr; Albertson, Allran, Ballance, Ballantine, Basnight, Blust, Carpenter, Carrington, Clark, Cochrane, Conder, Cooper, Dalton, Dannelly, Forrester, Foxx, Garwood, Gulley, Hartsell, Horton, Hoyle, Jenkins, Kincaid, Kinnaird, Ledbetter, Lee, Lucas, Martin of Pitt, Martin of Guilford, McDaniel, Miller, Odom, Page, Perdue, Phillips, Plyler, Rand, Reeves, Rucho, Shaw of Cumberland, Shaw of Guilford, Soles, Warren, Webster, Weinstein, Wellons, and Winner.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

June 2, 1997

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND MEMORY OF
2 CHARLES DUNN.

3 Whereas, Charles Dunn's illustrious life of civic and political service began
4 with his work as a top reporter in the old Senate and House chambers;

5 Whereas, Charles Dunn went on to assist former Governor Luther Hodges in
6 writing his book, "Businessman in the Statehouse", serve as Administrative Aide to
7 Congressman Horace Kornegay, and serve as Administrative/Special Assistant to
8 Governor Dan K. Moore; and

9 Whereas, as Director of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation,
10 Charles Dunn took a woefully understaffed and ill-equipped law enforcement agency
11 and doubled its staff, raised education standards for agents, established the North
12 Carolina Justice Academy, built a modern crime lab, hired the first female agent and the
13 first African-American special agent, and became a key spokesman on many criminal
14 justice issues; and

15 Whereas, during his service as Director of the North Carolina State Bureau of
16 Investigation, Charles Dunn not only made the agency an exemplary law enforcement
17 agency, he went on to participate in the implementation of the D.A.R.E. program in
18 North Carolina, he became a forceful advocate for children's causes, he helped raise

1 millions of dollars to build chapels at institutions for the retarded, and he taught junior
2 high school-age boys in Sunday School; and

3 Whereas, Charles Dunn was a founding member of the University of North
4 Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work, where he gave generously of his time
5 and resources, established a scholarship fund in honor of his wife, Martha, and literally
6 never missed a board meeting; and

7 Whereas, while working as Executive Vice President of the North Carolina
8 Textile Manufacturers Association, Charles Dunn made "Made in the USA" a household
9 term, asked everyone to wear North Carolina- and USA-made clothes, and established
10 the Charles and Martha Dunn Textile Scholarship; and

11 Whereas, Charles Dunn returned to the North Carolina State Bureau of
12 Investigation, first as Deputy Director and then as Director, and continued to speak out
13 on a variety of children's issues, one of which was Justice for Children; and

14 Whereas, in all of his public service, Charles Dunn set an example of
15 integrity, honesty, and character and he always comported himself as a "gentleman's
16 gentleman", a statesman, a Christian man, a man among men, and a friend; and

17 Whereas, although Charles Dunn was a public figure, he was driven by a
18 private obsession—as the father of three children, he came to fear for the future of many
19 of North Carolina's less-advantaged youngsters; and

20 Whereas, this profound concern for all of North Carolina's children led him to
21 be a founding member of and recipient of the John F. Baggett award from the North
22 Carolina Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Inc., to serve as Chairman of the Board of
23 Directors of North Carolina Drug Abuse Resistance Education, to serve as a member of
24 the board of directors of the United Way of North Carolina, to serve as President of
25 Chapels for the North Carolina Centers for the Retarded, Inc., to serve as chairman of
26 the Executive Committee of the Governor's Relations Committee, and to serve on the
27 board of many other children's organizations including the Child Advocacy Council, the
28 Methodist Home for Children, Wake County Opportunities, Inc., the Governor's Crime
29 Commission, and the Governor's Interagency Advisory Committee on Alcohol and
30 Drug Abuse; and

31 Whereas, Charles Dunn was always a spokesman for those who could not
32 speak for themselves and a supporter of the weak; and

33 Whereas, after being stricken with leukemia, Charles Dunn did not give up—he
34 fought a hard fight, he continued his work on behalf of children, and he wrote three
35 novels and a number of beautiful poems; and

36 Whereas, Charles Dunn was a loving and devoted husband, father, and
37 grandfather who, all-too-soon, left behind his wife, Martha; his daughter Sherrill Dunn
38 Jones, her husband Sam, and their child and Charles Dunn's namesake, Charlie; his son
39 Charles Jerome Dunn, III, "Jay", who graduated magna cum laude from the school of
40 Design at North Carolina State University in May; and his daughter Lelia Marie Dunn,
41 "Lea" or "chicken" to the family, who works at the North Carolina Retail Merchants
42 Association; and

1 Whereas, the General Assembly wishes to honor the life and memory of
2 Charles Dunn and to recognize his many years of service to his beloved State and his
3 fellow citizens;

4 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

5 Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina recognizes the many
6 accomplishments of Charles Dunn and expresses the gratitude of North Carolina and its
7 citizens for his life and service towards the betterment of all.

8 Section 2. The General Assembly of North Carolina offers its deepest
9 sympathy to the family and friends of Charles Dunn for the loss of their loved one and
10 friend.

11 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
12 resolution to the family of Charles Dunn.

13 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.