

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1087

Sponsors: Senators Jordan, Ballantine, Soles, Lee, Kinnaird, Dannelly, Odom, Rucho, Winner; Albertson, Allran, Ballance, Basnight, Blust, Carpenter, Carrington, Clark, Cochrane, Cooper, Dalton, East, Forrester, Foxx, Garwood, Gulley, Horton, Hoyle, Jenkins, Kerr, Lebetter, Martin of Pitt, Martin of Guilford, McDaniel, Page, Perdue, Purcell, Plyer, Rand, Shaw of Cumberland, Shaw of Guilford, Warren, Webster, Weinstein, and Wellons.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

July 24, 1997

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF CHARLES
2 KURALT.

3 Whereas, Charles Bishop Kuralt was born in Wilmington, North Carolina, on
4 September 10, 1934, to Wallace Hamilton Kuralt and Ina Bishop Kuralt; and

5 Whereas, Charles Kuralt spent his childhood years in the City of Charlotte
6 where his mother was a schoolteacher and his father, a social worker, served for 28
7 years as director of Mecklenburg County's public welfare; and

8 Whereas, Charles Kuralt excelled as a student at the University of North
9 Carolina at Chapel Hill, serving as editor of The Daily Tar Heel and graduating with a
10 bachelors degree in 1955; and

11 Whereas, following graduation from college, Charles Kuralt worked for the
12 Charlotte News and in 1956, received the Ernie Pyle Memorial Award for his well-
13 crafted and stylish writing; and

14 Whereas, in 1957, Charles Kuralt joined Columbia Broadcasting System
15 (CBS) as a writer and in 1959, at the age of 24, became the youngest person to be
16 named a news correspondent at CBS; and

17 Whereas, for the next several years, Charles Kuralt completed various
18 assignments for CBS, including covering the Vietnam War and other news stories from

1 various locations throughout the world, and serving as the first host of the CBS prime
2 time series, "Eyewitness", as the CBS Latin American Correspondent, and as the Chief
3 West Coast Correspondent; and

4 Whereas, after many years of masterful news reporting, Charles Kuralt began
5 his acclaimed "On the Road" series, as part of "The CBS Evening News" in 1967; and

6 Whereas, for the next 12 years, Charles Kuralt traveled the highways and
7 byways of the United States searching for stories that represented the ordinary
8 American; and

9 Whereas, on January 28, 1979, Charles Kuralt began his "Sunday
10 Morning" series, and for the next 15 years, warmed the hearts of millions of viewers
11 across the nation each Sunday morning with 90 minutes of wonderful stories and scenes
12 from all over the United States; and

13 Whereas, after a 37-year career at CBS, Charles Kuralt retired on April 3,
14 1994; and

15 Whereas, Charles Kuralt was the author of six books; and

16 Whereas, Charles Kuralt received numerous awards and recognitions,
17 including 12 Emmy Awards and three Peabody Awards and was inducted into the North
18 Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame in 1981; and

19 Whereas, despite his fame, Charles Kuralt never forgot his beloved home
20 state nor his alma mater, which he often assisted with fund-raising projects; and

21 Whereas, in 1995, Charles Kuralt served as the speaker for the dedication of
22 the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, which is named for him and houses the School of
23 Social Work, on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

24 Whereas, Charles Kuralt died on July 4, 1997; and

25 Whereas, Charles Kuralt is survived by his wife, Suzanna "Petie" Kuralt; his
26 daughters, Lisa White and Susan Bowers; a brother, Wallace Kuralt, Jr., a sister,
27 Catherine Harris; and two grandchildren; and

28 Whereas, Charles Kuralt possessed a peculiar insight that enabled him to
29 contribute substantially and effectively to the improvement and betterment of the world
30 around him, enriching the lives of those with whom he was associated and came in
31 contact; and

32 Whereas, in the passing of Charles Kuralt, North Carolina has lost one of its
33 most beloved, admired, and respected native sons;

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

35 Section 1. The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Charles
36 Bishop Kuralt and expresses its gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens
37 for his life and service.

38 Section 2. The General Assembly expresses its deep sorrow to the family and
39 friends of Charles Bishop Kuralt for the loss of a beloved husband, father, and a true
40 friend.

41 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
42 resolution to the family of Charles Kuralt.

43 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.