

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1675

Sponsors: Representative Tucker.

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

June 13, 2002

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF HUGH
2 STEWART JOHNSON, JR., A FORMER MEMBER OF THE NORTH
3 CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

4 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was born on December 12, 1920, in
5 Rose Hill, North Carolina, to Hugh Stewart Johnson, Sr. and Ethel Southerland
6 Johnson; and

7 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. attended Oak Ridge Military Institute in
8 Oak Ridge, North Carolina, and Motte's Business School in Wilmington, North
9 Carolina; and

10 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was a successful and respected retail
11 hardware merchant; and

12 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. served as a naval aviator for three years
13 in the United States Naval Reserve during World War II and achieved the rank of
14 lieutenant; and

15 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. served as a commissioner of the Town of
16 Rose Hill from 1947 to 1949; and

17 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was appointed to fill the remainder of
18 Robert M. Carr's term in the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1956; and

19 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was later elected to the House of
20 Representatives where he served with honor and distinction from 1957 through 1970;
21 and

22 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. had a deep personal interest in health
23 care issues facing North Carolina, especially the shortage of physicians in the rural areas
24 of the State; and

25 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr.'s interest and commitment in health care
26 issues led to his being appointed Chair of the Legislative Research Commission on the
27 Physician Shortage in Rural North Carolina in 1967; and

28 Whereas, under Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr.'s leadership, the Commission
29 revealed that the physician shortage was national as well as local, that many diverse
30 factors were at play in its identification and interpretation, that many persons and

1 institutions had a continuing effect on its manifestation and solution, and that the
2 shortage of physicians in rural areas in North Carolina was undeniably entwined in the
3 much larger and more comprehensive problem of sufficient health manpower and
4 adequate means of health services delivery in all parts of the State and nation; and

5 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was an effective advocate for the
6 passage of legislation to implement the Commission's recommendations, which
7 included funding to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to be used to
8 develop and expand the program and facilities of the School of Medicine and to provide
9 a family medicine professorship; and

10 Whereas, in subsequent legislation, funds were appropriated to create a
11 Department of Family Medicine in the School of Medicine at the University of North
12 Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

13 Whereas, as a result of Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr.'s efforts, there was an
14 increased focus on the shortage of physicians in rural North Carolina that resulted in
15 further studies, including a Legislative Research Commission study in 1969 that
16 conducted a broad and in-depth study of the health manpower needs of North Carolina;
17 and

18 Whereas, this Commission contributed to the development and expansion of
19 the medical schools at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina
20 University and laid the groundwork for the establishment of the Statewide Area Health
21 Education Centers Programs; and

22 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was active in numerous organizations,
23 including the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, 32nd Degree; Ancient and Accepted
24 Scottish Rite of Free Masonry; American Legion, Wallace Post No. 156; and Rehobeth
25 Lodge No. 279 A.F. & A.M.; and

26 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. received many special recognitions and
27 awards, including the Man of the Year Award in 1956 from English-Brown Post No.
28 9161, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wallace, North Carolina; and

29 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was well respected and admired by his
30 colleagues and friends; and

31 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. will be remembered for his many
32 contributions to the State of North Carolina; and

33 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. died on October 1, 1974; and

34 Whereas, Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr. was a devoted husband to his beloved
35 wife, the former Evelyn Furr, a loving father to his children, Tanya Johnson Shelton,
36 Vann Stewart Johnson, Sara Johnson Brown, Evelyn Johnson DeVane, and Helen
37 Johnson; and

38 Whereas, it is the desire of the General Assembly to formally recognize Hugh
39 Stewart Johnson, Jr.'s achievements and to pay tribute to his life and service; Now,
40 therefore,

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

42 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Hugh
43 Stewart Johnson, Jr. and expresses appreciation for the service he rendered to Duplin
44 County, the State of North Carolina, and the nation.

- 1 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
2 resolution to the family of Hugh Stewart Johnson, Jr.
3 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.