

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1407**

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Sponsors: Representatives Michaux, Luebke, Hall, Wilkins (Primary Sponsors);  
M. Alexander, Cotham, Dollar, Fisher, E. Floyd, Glazier, Harrison, Hughes,  
Insko, Jackson, Lucas, Rapp, Wainwright, Weiss, and Wray.

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

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April 13, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
2 NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY.

3 Whereas, North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham was chartered in  
4 1909 as a private institution and opened to students on July 10, 1910; and

5 Whereas, NCCU was founded by Dr. James E. Shepard as the National Religious  
6 Training School and Chautauqua; and

7 Whereas, in 1915, the School was sold and reorganized and its name was changed to  
8 the National Training School; and

9 Whereas, in 1923, the General Assembly appropriated funds for the purchase and  
10 maintenance of the School making it a publicly supported institution; and

11 Whereas, during that time, the School was renamed the Durham State Normal  
12 School; and

13 Whereas, in 1925, the School was converted to the North Carolina College for  
14 Negroes becoming the nation's first state-supported liberal arts college for African-American  
15 students; and

16 Whereas, the College saw significant expansion between 1927 and 1929 through  
17 appropriations from the General Assembly, a generous gift from B.N. Duke, and contributions  
18 from the citizens of Durham; and

19 Whereas, the College was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and  
20 Secondary Schools as an "A" class institution in 1937 and gained membership in that  
21 association in 1957; and

22 Whereas, in 1939, the General Assembly authorized the College to offer graduate  
23 studies, which led to the establishment of the School of Law in 1940 and the School of Library  
24 Science in 1941; and

25 Whereas, in 1947, the General Assembly changed the name of the College to North  
26 Carolina College at Durham and in 1969 changed the name to North Carolina Central  
27 University; and

28 Whereas, in 1972, NCCU became part of the consolidated University of North  
29 Carolina; and

30 Whereas, NCCU was led by Dr. Shepard from 1910 until his death on October 6,  
31 1947; and

32 Whereas, the leaders who followed Dr. Shepard include Dr. Alfonso Elder, Dr.  
33 Samuel P. Massie, Dr. Albert N. Whiting, Dr. LeRoy T. Walker, Dr. Tyronza R. Richmond,  
34 Julius L. Chambers, Dr. James H. Ammons, and Dr. Charlie Nelms; and



1           Whereas, NCCU currently offers bachelor's degrees in more than 100 fields of study  
2 and awards graduate degrees in an estimated 40 disciplines; and

3           Whereas, NCCU has a state-of-the-art biotechnology research institute, which  
4 collaborates with pharmacy and biotech companies in the Research Triangle Park area; and

5           Whereas, NCCU has an enrollment of nearly 9,000 students and through its  
6 international studies and exchange programs attracts students from several countries, including  
7 Liberia, India, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Nepal, China, the Czech Republic, Nigeria, South Korea,  
8 Russia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and South Africa; Now, therefore,

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

10           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Dr. James E. Shepard  
11 for his role in founding North Carolina Central University.

12           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly acknowledges the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North  
13 Carolina Central University and encourages the citizens of this State to participate in activities  
14 marking this historic occasion for one of the State's public universities.

15           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
16 resolution to Dr. Charlie Nelms, Chancellor of North Carolina Central University.

17           **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.