

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DRSJR75322-LG-194 (10/22)**

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Sponsors:     Senator Soles.

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Referred to:

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1   A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF MARGARET  
2   TAYLOR HARPER, FORMER CANDIDATE FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

3           Whereas, Margaret Taylor was born on February 17, 1917, in Southport, North  
4   Carolina, to Charles Edward Taylor and Jessie Stevens Taylor; and

5           Whereas, Margaret Taylor earned a bachelor's degree from Greensboro College in  
6   1937; and

7           Whereas, after college, Margaret Taylor married James M. Harper, Jr., editor of the  
8   State Port Pilot, a local newspaper in Southport; and

9           Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper successfully ran an insurance company founded  
10  by her grandfather for a number of years and edited the State Port Pilot while her husband  
11  served in the United States Navy during World War II; and

12          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper went on to serve as executive secretary of the  
13  North Carolina Press Association from 1969 to 1978 and was inducted into the North Carolina  
14  Journalism Hall of Fame in 1987; and

15          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper rendered distinguished service to her community,  
16  serving on many boards in various leadership capacities, including the Southport Woman's  
17  Club, Brunswick County Library Board, and North Carolinians for Better Libraries; and

18          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper served on the Boards of Trustees for the  
19  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of North Carolina, and  
20  North Carolina Wesleyan College, the Board of Governors for Research Triangle Institute, and  
21  Board of Directors of Carolina Power and Light Company; and

22          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper served as president of the North Carolina  
23  Democratic Women and chair of the North Carolina Council of Women's Organizations; and

24          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper sought the Democratic nomination for lieutenant  
25  governor during the 1968 and 1972 elections; and

26          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper was devoted to the Trinity United Methodist  
27  Church in Southport, serving as a Sunday school teacher and the organist for more than 50  
28  years; and

29          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper served as chair of the Methodist Retirement  
30  Home in the City of Durham and played a vital role in establishing Croasdaile Village, a  
31  retirement community in that city; and

32          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper was recognized for her many contributions,  
33  receiving honorary degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and  
34  Greensboro College and recognition from the Council of Women's Organizations as a Woman  
35  of Distinction in 1987; and

36          Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper died on October 11, 2009, at the age of 92; and



1           Whereas, Margaret Taylor Harper leaves to cherish her memories two sons, James  
2 M. Harper III and Edward T. Harper; four grandchildren, James M. Harper IV, Margaret Tuttle,  
3 Julianne Hollingsworth, and Morgan Harper of Southport; and seven great-grandchildren,  
4 Kathleen Tuttle, Clay Tuttle, Sierra Shell, Anna Holcomb, Jonah Gouger, Joshua Mote, and  
5 Marisa Mote; Now, therefore,

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

7           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life of Margaret Taylor Harper and  
8 expresses the appreciation of this State and its citizens for her life and service to her community  
9 and State.

10           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its sympathy to the family of  
11 Margaret Taylor Harper for the loss of a beloved family member.

12           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
13 resolution to the family of Margaret Taylor Harper.

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