

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 371

Sponsors: Senators Boseman; Albertson, Allran, Apodaca, Atwater, Berger of Franklin, Bingham, Blake, Brock, Brown, Brunstetter, Clary, Clodfelter, Davis, Dorsett, East, Foriest, Garrou, Goodall, Goss, Graham, Hartsell, Hoyle, Hunt, Jacumin, Jenkins, Jones, Kinnaird, McKissick, Nesbitt, Preston, Queen, Rand, Rouzer, Rucho, Shaw, Snow, Soles, Stein, Stevens, Swindell, Tillman, and Vaughan.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 4, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF RICHARD JOHN
2 MATTHEWS, FORMER OFFICER OF THE WILMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.

3 Whereas, Richard John Matthews, the son of Dennis and Margaret Matthews of
4 Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, graduated from Liberty High School in 1999 and obtained a
5 Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from York College of Pennsylvania in 2003;
6 and

7 Whereas, Richard John Matthews served as a law enforcement officer with the New
8 York City Police Department from January 2004 until December 2006; and

9 Whereas, Officer Matthews joined the Wilmington Police Department on December
10 11, 2006, where he served with honor and distinction for over two years; and

11 Whereas, on January 24, 2009, Officer Matthews and several other officers
12 responded to a fire at a condominium complex that was fully engulfed and safely evacuated the
13 residents of the complex, including a 96-year-old woman; and

14 Whereas, because of his actions, Officer Matthews was issued a commendation for
15 his acts of bravery, courage, and professionalism on February 5, 2009; and

16 Whereas, Officer Matthews was killed in the line of duty at the age of 28 as he
17 responded to a call for help from another officer on February 18, 2009; Now, therefore,

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

19 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Officer Richard John
20 Matthews and expresses its appreciation for the service he rendered his community and the
21 Wilmington Police Department.

22 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the family of
23 Officer Richard John Matthews for the loss of a distinguished family member.

24 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
25 resolution to the family of Officer Richard John Matthews and the Wilmington Police
26 Department.

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

