

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 376**

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Sponsors: Senators Foriest, McKissick; Albertson, Allran, Atwater, Berger of Franklin, Berger of Rockingham, Bingham, Boseman, Brock, Brown, Brunstetter, Dannelly, Dorsett, Forrester, Goss, Graham, Hoyle, Jenkins, Jones, Kinnaird, Malone, Nesbitt, Preston, Purcell, Queen, Rouzer, Shaw, Snow, Soles, Stein, Stevens, Swindell, Tillman, Vaughan, and Weinstein.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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March 4, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JIM LONG,  
2 FORMER COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE AND MEMBER OF THE GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY.

4 Whereas, James Eugene "Jim" Long was born on March 19, 1940, in Burlington,  
5 North Carolina, to George Attmore Long and Helen Brooks Long; and

6 Whereas, Jim Long attended North Carolina State University from 1958 to 1962 and  
7 then transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he earned a  
8 bachelor's degree in 1963 and a law degree in 1966; and

9 Whereas, Jim Long practiced law for a number of years before seeking public office  
10 like his father and grandfather before him, both of whom served in the General Assembly; and

11 Whereas, Jim Long served in the General Assembly representing the citizens of  
12 Alamance County as a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1971 to  
13 1975; and

14 Whereas, Jim Long served as Chief Deputy Commissioner of the Department of  
15 Insurance from 1975 to 1976 and later as legal counsel to the Speaker of the House of  
16 Representatives from 1981 to 1984; and

17 Whereas, Jim Long was elected as Insurance Commissioner in 1984 and was  
18 reelected five times; and

19 Whereas, Jim Long was a fierce advocate for the consumers of this State,  
20 maintaining fair and adequate automobile and homeowners insurance rates; and

21 Whereas, Jim Long accomplished many things to protect the interests of consumers,  
22 including creating a Patients' Bill of Rights and establishing a high-risk insurance pool; and

23 Whereas, upon his retirement in 2009, Jim Long had earned the distinction of being  
24 the State's longest-serving Insurance Commissioner and the third longest serving Insurance  
25 Commissioner in the nation; and

26 Whereas, Jim Long served as President of the National Association of Insurance  
27 Commissioners (NAIC) in 1991 and subsequently served as "immediate past president" of the  
28 NAIC five times; and

29 Whereas, Jim Long served in many capacities on a number of boards and  
30 commissions, including Chair of the North Carolina Safe Kids, President of the National  
31 Association of Insurance Commissioners, and Chair of the Property Tax Commission, and as a  
32 member of the North Carolina Prevention Partners, North Carolina Arson Awareness Council,  
33 and the North Carolina Manufactured Housing Board; and



1           Whereas, Jim Long will be remembered for wearing a red necktie every day in  
2 honor of his father, who always did the same; and

3           Whereas, Jim Long died on February 2, 2009, at the age of 68; and

4           Whereas, Jim Long is survived by his wife, Mary Margaret "Peg" O'Connell; his  
5 son, James E. Long, Jr.; a daughter, Rebecca A. Long; and five grandchildren, Steven A. Long,  
6 Morgan B. Long, Kristina R. McNeal, Matthew C. McNeal, and Hannah E. Englehart; Now,  
7 therefore,

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

9           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly wishes to honor the memory of James Eugene  
10 "Jim" Long and expresses the gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens for the  
11 service he rendered to the people of North Carolina.

12           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the family of  
13 James Eugene "Jim" Long for the loss of a beloved and distinguished family member.

14           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
15 resolution to the family of James Eugene "Jim" Long.

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