

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 944

Sponsors: Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House (Primary Sponsor).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

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

August 10, 2015

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY PETITIONING THE CITIZENS' STAMP
2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AND THE
3 POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO ISSUE A
4 COMMEMORATIVE STAMP HONORING THE REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM.

5 Whereas, William Franklin "Billy" Graham, Jr., was born on November 7, 1918, to
6 William Franklin Graham and Morrow Coffey Graham and was reared on a dairy farm in
7 Charlotte, North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, Billy Graham attended the Florida Bible Institute from 1937 to 1940,
9 graduating in 1940, and was ordained to the ministry in 1939; and

10 Whereas, Billy Graham served as pastor of The Village Church in Western Springs,
11 Illinois, from 1943 to 1945; as a member of Youth for Christ International, where he ministered
12 to young people and military personnel from 1945 to 1950; and as President of Northwestern
13 Schools, a liberal arts college, Bible school, and theological seminary, from 1947 to 1952; and

14 Whereas, after World War II, Reverend Graham preached throughout the United
15 States and Europe and attained international prominence as an evangelist through a series of
16 crusades that began in 1949; and

17 Whereas, since 1950, Reverend Graham has conducted his ministry through the
18 Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA), reaching multitudes of people by means of a
19 weekly radio program, "Hour of Decision"; a newspaper column, "My Answer"; televised
20 crusades; articles published in "Decision" magazine; and evangelistic films produced and
21 distributed by World Wide Pictures and now reaching millions through the BGEA Web site and
22 the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte; and

23 Whereas, over the years, Reverend Graham has preached to live audiences of nearly
24 215 million people in more than 185 countries and territories and has preached to an estimated
25 2.2 billion people through television and technology; and

26 Whereas, Reverend Graham has been a renowned humanitarian and philanthropist,
27 providing financial assistance to victims of disasters as well as collecting and distributing
28 clothing to those in need all around the world over the years; and

29 Whereas, Reverend Graham has counseled 12 Presidents and has participated in
30 nine presidential inaugurations; and

31 Whereas, Reverend Graham has also counseled world leaders and has participated
32 in many historic occasions and has been called upon as the "nation's pastor" during times of
33 national crisis. He spoke at the National Cathedral service in Washington, D.C., three days after
34 the 9/11 attack in 2001, as the nation and world watched and listened. Five presidents,



1 including George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, Jimmy Carter, and Gerald Ford,
2 and their wives were in the audience; and

3 Whereas, admired and beloved by both Christians and non-Christians, Reverend
4 Graham continues to inspire the world with his good works; and

5 Whereas, there have been many great North Carolinians, but few have impacted the
6 world more than Billy Graham; and

7 Whereas, it is appropriate to honor the Reverend Billy Graham, one of America's
8 most distinguished citizens, with a commemorative postage stamp; Now, therefore,

9 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

10 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives respectfully petitions the Citizens'
11 Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service and the Postmaster General of
12 the United States to issue a commemorative stamp honoring the Reverend Billy Graham.

13 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit copies of this resolution to the
14 Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee and the Postmaster General.

15 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.