

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1762

Sponsors: Representatives Beall and Ramsey.

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

July 21, 1998

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ERNEST
2 BRYAN MESSER, FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer was born in Waynesville, North Carolina, on
4 December 21, 1913, to Forest W. Messer and Effie Furr Messer; and

5 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer graduated from Lee Edwards High School in
6 1931 and received a BA degree from Carson Newman College in 1935; and

7 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer was a teacher and served as a basketball coach
8 for the Haywood County Schools from 1935 to 1939; and

9 Whereas, during World War II, Ernest Bryan Messer proudly served his
10 country as a member of the United States Navy, where he attained the rank of
11 lieutenant; and

12 Whereas, after his service in the Navy, Ernest Bryan Messer began working
13 for Champion International, Inc., until his retirement in 1977; and

14 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer served with honor and distinction as a
15 member of the North Carolina House of Representatives for 10 terms between 1963 and
16 1981, during which time he served as the first Chair of the Committee on Aging and
17 was instrumental in sponsoring legislation benefiting senior citizens; and

18 Whereas, in November of 1981, Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. appointed
19 Ernest Bryan Messer as Assistant Secretary of the Division of Aging, a position that he
20 held until May of 1985; and

21 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer helped to develop North Carolina's Senior
22 Games; and

1 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer established himself as a leader by serving as
2 President of the Board of Directors of the Haywood County Mental Health Association;
3 as a member of the Board of Directors of the Champion YMCA and the Champion
4 Credit Union; as Chair of the Haywood County Democratic Executive Committee, the
5 Canton Chapter Red Cross Bloodmobile, and the Inplant United Fund Drive; and as a
6 trustee of the Haywood Technical Institute; and

7 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer contributed to his community as a member of
8 numerous civic and fraternal organizations, including the Canton Lions Club, Haywood
9 Planning Board, Haywood County Historical Association, Canton Toastmasters Club,
10 American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

11 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer was awarded the Layman's Award for
12 Distinguished Service to Education by Phi Delta Kappa of Western Carolina University
13 in 1974; and

14 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer was an active member of the Canton First
15 Baptist Church, where he was a former Sunday school teacher and Training Union
16 director; and

17 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer died on June 14, 1997; and

18 Whereas, Ernest Bryan Messer is survived by his wife of 62 years, Jincy
19 Owen Messer; a daughter, Patsy M. Poovey; two grandsons, Brant Poovey and Phillip
20 Poovey; and other close relatives; Now, therefore,

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

22 Section 1. The General Assembly expresses its deep appreciation for the life
23 and accomplishments of Ernest Bryan Messer and for the great service he rendered to
24 his nation, the State of North Carolina, and his community.

25 Section 2. The General Assembly expresses its deepest sympathy to the
26 family of Ernest Bryan Messer for the loss of a beloved husband, father, grandfather,
27 and friend.

28 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
29 resolution to the family of Ernest Bryan Messer.

30 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.