

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1537*

Sponsors: Senator Reeves.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

June 1, 1998

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JAMES M.
2 POYNER, FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, James M. Poyner was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, on
4 September 18, 1914, to James Marion Poyner and Mary Sherwood Smedes Poyner; and

5 Whereas, James M. Poyner received a bachelors degree in Chemical
6 Engineering in 1935 and a masters degree in Chemical Engineering in 1937 from North
7 Carolina State University; and

8 Whereas, while a student at North Carolina State University, James M.
9 Poyner began and led the popular "Jimmy Poyner's Famous Collegians" orchestra; and

10 Whereas, James M. Poyner received his law degree from Duke University in
11 1940 and began a law practice in the City of Raleigh; and

12 Whereas, during World War II, James M. Poyner served his country in the
13 United States Army's Chemical War Unit and was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal;
14 and

15 Whereas, after the war, James M. Poyner began the firm Poyner, Geraghty,
16 Hartsfield and Townsend. The firm eventually merged to form Poyner and Spruill; and

17 Whereas, James M. Poyner was elected to two terms in the General
18 Assembly, where he served as a member of the Senate, representing Wake County from
19 1955 until 1958; and

20 Whereas, James M. Poyner distinguished himself in the field of business,
21 becoming the founder of Eastern Standard Insurance Company and cofounder of the
22 Business Development Corporation of North Carolina and the Cameron-Brown
23 Mortgage Company (now First Union Mortgage); and

1 Whereas, James M. Poyner served as director of the First Union National
2 Bank and The Richmond Corporation and was President of the North Carolina Bar
3 Association; and

4 Whereas, James M. Poyner played a prominent role in the development of the
5 Research Triangle Park, helping to organize and lead corporate recruitment efforts; and

6 Whereas, James M. Poyner was active in his community, serving as President
7 and Director of the Raleigh YMCA, Chair of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce,
8 Trustee of St. Mary's College, and Chair of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina
9 Symphony Society; and

10 Whereas, James M. Poyner helped to establish Camps Sea Gull and Seafarer;
11 and

12 Whereas, James M. Poyner helped to develop several country clubs, was a
13 member of the Board of Directors of the Country Club of North Carolina in Pinehurst
14 for 25 years, and served as chair of the World Golf Hall of Fame for seven years; and

15 Whereas, James M. Poyner was a founding member of St. Michael's
16 Episcopal Church; and

17 Whereas, James M. Poyner died on December 30, 1997, at the age of 83; and

18 Whereas, James M. Poyner is survived by his wife of 52 years, Florence Chan
19 Poyner; four daughters, Susan Poyner Moore, Chan Poyner Pike, Margaret Poyner
20 Galbraith, and Edythe Poyner Lumsden; a son, James Marion Poyner III; and eight
21 grandchildren; and

22 Whereas, the General Assembly wishes to pay tribute to its former member
23 for his dedication and leadership; Now, therefore,

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

25 Section 1. The General Assembly wishes to honor the life and memory of
26 James M. Poyner and express its appreciation for his service to the citizens of the State
27 of North Carolina.

28 Section 2. The General Assembly joins the family and friends of James M.
29 Poyner in mourning the loss of one of the State's most respected citizens.

30 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
31 resolution to the family of James M. Poyner.

32 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.