

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 701

Sponsors: Representatives Culpepper; and Jarrell.

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

March 20, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF PERSONS
2 WHO WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
3 ELIZABETHAN GARDENS, A CULTURAL TREASURE IN THE STATE OF
4 NORTH CAROLINA.

5 Whereas, Sir Evelyn Wrench, founder of the English Speaking Union, had the
6 vision and foresight to suggest the idea of building an Elizabethan garden at Fort
7 Raleigh as a tribute to the Roanoke colonists; and

8 Whereas, Mrs. Charles Cannon and Mrs. Inglis Fletcher worked with much
9 energy and zeal to promote the idea to the Garden Club of North Carolina; and

10 Whereas, the Garden Club of North Carolina formally adopted the project in
11 the spring of 1951 and worked tirelessly to gain support and solicit contributions for the
12 Elizabethan Gardens; and

13 Whereas, the Roanoke Island Historical Association entered into a 99-year
14 lease with the Garden Club of North Carolina for the use of 10.5 acres of land within the
15 Fort Raleigh National Historic Site for the development of the Elizabethan Gardens; and

16 Whereas, the Elizabethan Gardens committee and its chairs, including Mrs.
17 James M. Tyler, Mrs. Glenn Long, Mrs. Roy M. Homewood, and Mrs. Corbett E.
18 Howard, led the effort to create and develop the Elizabethan Gardens from 1951
19 through 1964; and

20 Whereas, the Elizabethan Gardens committee had the vision and wisdom to
21 secure the services of the nationally renowned landscape architects Umberto Innocenti
22 and Richard K. Webel to design the Elizabethan Gardens; and

23 Whereas, outstanding builders and craftsmen, including Mr. E.W. Reinecke,
24 Mr. Albert Q. "Skipper" Bell, and others, were hired to build the Elizabethan Gardens;
25 and

26 Whereas, during the last 50 years, the Honorable John Hay Whitney, Mr. Paul
27 Green, The Honorable and Mrs. C. Douglas Dillon, and numerous other garden club
28 members, citizens, and State agencies have contributed plants, statuary, in-kind
29 services, and funds to continue improving the Elizabethan Gardens; and

1 Whereas, the Elizabethan Gardens trustees, including Mrs. H.R. Totten, Mrs.
2 J.R. Bennett, and Mrs. Roscoe D. McMillan, worked with great commitment to benefit
3 the Elizabethan Gardens from 1958 until 1974; and

4 Whereas, Mr. Louis Midgette, Sr. and numerous other staff members and
5 volunteers worked tirelessly to care for and develop the Elizabethan Gardens; and

6 Whereas, the Elizabethan Gardens Board of Governors, along with numerous
7 consultants, horticulturists, craftsmen, architects, and landscape architects, has carried
8 on the work of its predecessors since 1974; and

9 Whereas, the Garden Club of North Carolina and all of its member clubs
10 continue to support the Elizabethan Gardens; and

11 Whereas, the efforts of the people named herein have resulted in the creation
12 of a public garden widely celebrated and acclaimed for its beauty and educational
13 efforts; and

14 Whereas, the Elizabethan Gardens have been enjoyed by visitors from all 50
15 states and over 40 foreign countries; Now, therefore,

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

17 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of all the
18 individuals named in this resolution for their role in the development of the Elizabethan
19 Gardens. The General Assembly congratulates the Garden Club of North Carolina for
20 50 years of exemplary service to the State of North Carolina by creating and cultivating
21 the Elizabethan Gardens and encourages the citizens of this State to visit the
22 Elizabethan Gardens.

23 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
24 resolution to the Garden Club of North Carolina and the Elizabethan Gardens.

25 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.