

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1422**

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Sponsors: Senators Wellons; Allran, Ballantine, Berger, Bingham, Carpenter, Carrington, Carter, Dalton, Forrester, Foxx, Garrou, Garwood, Gulley, Hartsell, Horton, Kinnaird, Lee, Lucas, Martin of Guilford, Miller, Moore, Odom, Purcell, Reeves, Rucho, Webster, and Weinstein.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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June 13, 2002

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ILENE B.  
2 NELSON, ADVOCATE FOR ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

3       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson grew up in Caldwell, Idaho; and

4       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson earned a BS degree in education and psychology  
5 from the University of Colorado, an MA degree in social work from the University of  
6 Chicago, and a JD degree from the University of California's Hasting's College of Law;  
7 and

8       Whereas, prior to moving to North Carolina in 1982, Ilene B. Nelson worked  
9 as an assistant professor of law and social work at the University of Hawaii for two  
10 years; and

11       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson was an adjunct professor at the University of North  
12 Carolina at Chapel Hill and a professor of law at the North Carolina Central University,  
13 and was a partner in the law firm, Edelstein, Paine and Nelson; and

14       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson joined the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem  
15 Program as an Attorney Advocate in Wake County in 1985; and

16       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson became the Administrator of the Guardian ad Litem  
17 Program in 1990, a position she held for 11 years; and

18       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson was a passionate advocate for abused and neglected  
19 children and fought tirelessly to protect their interests in the judicial system; and

20       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson also provided training on children's issues to social  
21 workers, judges, law students, and others across the State and nation; and

22       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson played a significant role in persuading the General  
23 Assembly to establish the Child Fatality Task Force; and

24       Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson served as the first chair of the Child Fatality Task  
25 Force and urged the passage of legislation affecting children, such as requiring  
26 landlords to install and maintain smoke detectors and requiring graduated drivers  
27 licenses; and

1           Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson worked on the Permanent Families Task Force  
2 which was created to train judges and develop strategies to secure a safe and permanent  
3 home for every child in foster care; and

4           Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson fought vigorously on changing the Juvenile Code to  
5 improve the way the State court system responds to the plight of abused and neglected  
6 children; and

7           Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson received numerous honors and awards including  
8 the Norman B. Smith Award in 2001, the Order of the Longleaf Pine in 2000, and the  
9 W.W. Finlator Award in 1999; and

10          Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson died on September 16, 2001; and

11          Whereas, Ilene B. Nelson was a loving mother to her children, Alicia Nelson  
12 and Aaron Nelson and a devoted daughter to her parents, Joe Barenter and Harriet  
13 Barenter; Now, therefore,

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

15           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Ilene B. Nelson  
16 and expresses its appreciation for the service she rendered to protect the children of the  
17 State of North Carolina.

18           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly expresses its sincere sympathy to the  
19 family of Ilene B. Nelson for the loss of a beloved family member.

20           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
21 resolution to the family of Ilene B. Nelson.

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