

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1471

Sponsors: Senators Basnight, Ballantine; Albertson, Berger, Bingham, Carpenter, Carrington, Carter, Clark, Dalton, Dannelly, Forrester, Foxx, Garrou, Garwood, Gulley, Hagan, Harris, Horton, Hoyle, Lee, Lucas, Martin of Guilford, Martin of Pitt, Metcalf, Moore, Odom, Plyler, Purcell, Rand, Robinson, Shaw of Cumberland, Shaw of Guilford, Soles, Swindell, Thomas, Warren, Webster, and Weinstein.

Referred to: Rules Suspended; Passed 2nd and 3rd; Sent to House.

July 3, 2002

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING INDEPENDENCE DAY AND
2 EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE RECITAL OF THE PLEDGE OF
3 ALLEGIANCE.

4 Whereas, Independence Day is our country's most important national holiday;
5 and

6 Whereas, on July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress adopted the final
7 draft of the Declaration of Independence, declaring freedom of the 13 American
8 colonies from British rule at a meeting held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

9 Whereas, the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence included three
10 men from North Carolina, William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn; and

11 Whereas, on May 16, 1783, the General Assembly, "Resolved, that the fourth
12 day of July be and is hereby appointed a day of General Thanksgiving and praise to
13 Almighty God for the gracious Interposition of Divine Providence in behalf of this
14 nation ..."; and

15 Whereas, this country was founded on religious freedom and our Founding
16 Fathers deeply believed that the freedom to worship as one chooses was a fundamental
17 right; and

18 Whereas, the Pledge of Allegiance has for almost 50 years included
19 references to our country having been established as a union "under God" and to this
20 country being dedicated to securing "liberty and justice for all"; and

21 Whereas, as July 4th nears, the 226th birthday of our nation, the General
22 Assembly supports reciting the Pledge of Allegiance across our nation and observing
23 our nation's patriotic traditions; Now, therefore,

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly commemorates July 4th, our Day of
2 Independence, and urges the people of this State to participate in activities celebrating
3 our nation's freedom.

4 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly supports the recital of the Pledge of
5 Allegiance as we recommit ourselves to the principles and traditions that motivated our
6 Founding Fathers and guaranteed to us the blessings of liberty.

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