

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1538**

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Sponsors: Representatives Jones, Wiley (Primary Sponsors); Hughes and Wray.

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

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April 23, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE  
2 HIGH POINT FURNITURE MARKET ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE  
3 HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

4 Whereas, on March 1, 1909, the first Southern Furniture Market opened in High  
5 Point to showcase the products of High Point and North Carolina furniture manufacturers; and

6 Whereas, due to the quantity, quality, and design of North Carolina furniture  
7 manufacturers, it was recognized that there was a need for a southern furniture market to  
8 compete with existing markets in Chicago, New York, and other cities; and

9 Whereas, this first High Point Furniture Market was the culmination of efforts by  
10 regional furniture producers and High Point civic leaders, including J.J. Farris, Charles F.  
11 Long, and D. Ralph Parker; and

12 Whereas, the High Point Market has survived the Great Depression, two World  
13 Wars, and flourishes today as the premiere international furniture market, and the largest  
14 permanent trade show of its kind in the world; and

15 Whereas, the High Point Market is a unique North Carolina institution, with 180  
16 buildings housing permanent showrooms comprising more than 12,000,000 square feet, with  
17 approximately 13,000 jobs related to the Market; and

18 Whereas, the High Point Market attracts more than 170,000 attendees annually,  
19 including many thousands of international visitors, with an economic impact of \$1.2 billion to  
20 the State; and

21 Whereas, the High Point Market is the center of the furniture industry cluster in the  
22 State, comprised of manufacturers, retailers, showroom owners, furniture designers, interior  
23 designers, photographers, and industry publications, with a combined economic impact of  
24 \$8.94 billion; and

25 Whereas, the High Point Market should be recognized for 100 years of providing a  
26 world showcase for home furnishings and the State of North Carolina itself, and for continuing  
27 to be the most significant economic impact event in the State; Now, therefore,

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

29 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of the founders of the  
30 High Point Market, including J.J. Farris, Charles F. Long, and D. Ralph Parker, as well as the  
31 many men and women who have contributed to the growth and strength of this Market over its  
32 100-year history.

33 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly commends the High Point Market on its 100<sup>th</sup>  
34 Anniversary, expresses its commitment to maintain and enhance the High Point Market's  
35 worldwide premiere status in the furniture industry, and acknowledges the contributions of the  
36 High Point Market over its long history.



1                   **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
2 resolution to the High Point Market Authority.

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