

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DRSJR15237-LG-129 (03/12)

Sponsors: Senator Foriest.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER
2 DUFFY COLLINS.

3 Whereas, Christopher Duffy Collins was born in New Hanover County to Bruce
4 Eugene Collins and Mary Jo Ashby Collins; and

5 Whereas, Duffy Collins was a 1995 graduate of Walter M. Williams High School in
6 Burlington, where he was a member of the tennis and golf teams, served as vice president of
7 the student body, and participated in several clubs, including Latin, Environmental, and
8 Philosophy; and

9 Whereas, Duffy Collins attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro
10 (UNC-G), where he studied anthropology and religion before finding an interest in nursing; and

11 Whereas, Duffy Collins was an active and energetic person all of his life; as a young
12 child, he earned the 1989 Sugar Babies Bambino Sportsman Award for the City of Burlington
13 and earned the distinction of becoming the City's first baseball player to receive the winning
14 game ball, after striking out 11 players, and as an adult, he earned a second-place finish for
15 Amateur Men in Disc Golf during the Alamance County PRO-AM Cross State Contest and a
16 first place finish in the Amateur Division for Disc Golf during the Cross State Double Contest
17 between North Carolina and Tennessee; and

18 Whereas, before graduating from college, Duffy Collins was diagnosed with an
19 autoimmune disease that affected his kidneys, requiring him to endure more than two and
20 one-half years of dialysis treatments while waiting for a kidney donation; and

21 Whereas, despite the difficulties with his health, Duffy Collins was able to keep a
22 positive attitude as well as maintain his grades while at UNC-G; and

23 Whereas, Duffy Collins died on September 16, 2005, at the age of 28, after a
24 courageous battle with renal failure; and

25 Whereas, Duffy Collins's community was greatly affected by his death and showed
26 a tremendous amount of support to his family; and

27 Whereas, to honor Duffy Collins's memory, his high school alma mater established
28 the Duffy Collins Memorial Scholarship for students accepted to an accredited four-year
29 college or university with an interest in nursing or other health-related fields of study; and

30 Whereas, Duffy Collins's parents established the Duffy Collins Organ Transplant
31 Foundation, a nonprofit tax deductible foundation, to bring about awareness of organ donation
32 and to raise money to defray costs for transplant patients, especially in North Carolina, where
33 there are more than 3,000 North Carolinians currently on the waiting list for transplants; and

34 Whereas, less than half of those on the waiting list survive long enough to receive a
35 transplant, which can take an average of seven to eight years; and

36 Whereas, each organ donor can save up to eight lives; Now, therefore,

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



* D R S J R 1 5 2 3 7 - L G - 1 2 9 *

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Christopher
- 2 Duffy Collins and expresses its appreciation for the impact he had on his community.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly encourages the citizens of this State to
- 4 become organ donors to help people like Christopher Duffy Collins live a longer life.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
- 6 resolution to the family of Christopher Duffy Collins.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.