

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1987 SESSION
RATIFIED BILL

RESOLUTION 10
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 67

A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF WILLIAM
PRESTON SAUNDERS.

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was born in Dallas, North Carolina, on October 28, 1897; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was educated in Plumtree Academy, Plumtree, North Carolina, was graduated from High School in Morganton, North Carolina, and attended college at The University of North Carolina in the class of 1921 where he played varsity baseball; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was engaged in the textile business, became President of Robbins Mills, Inc., and retired from the field after more than thirty years; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders served as Mayor of Robbins, North Carolina, for sixteen years and was President of Robbins Building and Loan Association; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders held various other important community positions, including President of the Robbins Building and Loan Association, member of the Board of Directors of First Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Southern Pines, Trustee of St. Andrews Presbyterian College of Laurinburg, member of The University of North Carolina Board of Trustees and Vice President of the Boy Scouts of America in North Carolina; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders served in the 1963, 1969, 1971, and 1973 sessions of the General Assembly as a Senator; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders' service to the State of North Carolina gave him the distinction of being elected to State executive positions by each Governor of North Carolina from J. C. B. Eringhaus through Dan K. Moore, which positions included the State Banking Commission and North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders' most noteworthy accomplishment for the State of North Carolina was his influence in persuading Governor Luther H. Hodges to proceed with a program to establish the Research Triangle Park; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders' service to the Democratic Party included Precinct Chairman in Moore County, a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee for many years and attended the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968 as a delegate and was also an alternate delegate to two other National Democratic Conventions; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders' commitment to his community provided him with several awards and honors of which included an award by the Moore County Board of Education for his outstanding work in the field of education where he chaired a drive to raise three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in school bonds for consolidation of high schools in Moore County and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to establish the Sandhills Community College; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, both at Robbins and Southern Pines, for many years; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was a member of fraternal organizations, including Scottish Rite Mason, Shriner, Southern Pines Elks Club, Sandhills Kiwanis Club; and

Whereas, William Preston Saunders was married to the late Elizabeth Yates Plonk, and leaves two daughters, Mrs. Ralph W. Barnhart of Raeford, North Carolina, and Mrs. Robert O. Southwell of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren; and

Whereas, the General Assembly wishes to honor the memory of William Preston Saunders and recognize his many years of public service to the people of this State and of the United States;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina honors the memory of William Preston Saunders and expresses the gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens for his life and devoted service to his community and to North Carolina.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the family of William Preston Saunders.

Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 24th day of March, 1987.

Robert B. Jordan III
President of the Senate

Liston B. Ramsey
Speaker of the House of Representatives