

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 208*

Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford, Seymour, Shaw; Ballance, Barnes, Basnight, Block, Conder, Daniel, Hunt, Kaplan, Lee, Martin of Pitt, Parnell, Perdue, Richardson, Royall, Sands, Speed, Tally, Walker, Ward, and Winner.

Referred to: Rules.

March 5, 1991

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOUNDERS OF THE NORTH
2 CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY AT
3 GREENSBORO AND URGING THE GOVERNOR TO ISSUE A
4 PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY'S CENTENNIAL.

5 Whereas, the people of North Carolina are deeply indebted to the North
6 Carolina General Assembly of 1891 and other leaders of just over a century ago whose
7 vision created on March 9, 1891, the Agricultural and Mechanical College for the
8 Colored Race, now known as the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State
9 University; and

10 Whereas, special honor is accorded the memory of black legislators, James
11 O'Hara and John A. White and black editor, Charles N. Hunter for their superb work as
12 advocates to establish a State college for blacks; and

13 Whereas, a bill to establish a college for blacks was introduced in the General
14 Assembly on March 5, 1891, by Senator John Bellamy of Wilmington, North Carolina;
15 and

16 Whereas, the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University was
17 established as the Agricultural and Mechanical College for the Colored Race by an act
18 of the General Assembly of North Carolina on March 9, 1891; and

19 Whereas, in creating the Agricultural and Mechanical College for the Colored
20 Race, the General Assembly provided that a sum of \$2,500 be annually appropriated to
21 sustain the college; and

1 Whereas, on March 23, 1891, the Agricultural and Mechanical Board of
2 Trustees accepted the City of Greensboro's offer of \$11,000 and 14 acres of land to
3 locate the college in Greensboro; and

4 Whereas, the Agricultural and Mechanical College, led by President Dr. J.O.
5 Crosby, opened its doors to 37 students in the fall of 1893; and

6 Whereas, from that humble beginning, the school has developed into the
7 North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, with 6,500 students, and by
8 outstanding academic programs and research acumen, the University has rendered
9 service to the State and the nation for 100 years, and it is widely respected as one of the
10 foremost historically black universities in the nation; and

11 Whereas, the University's strength has been the discovering and development
12 of talent in thousands of young people, and the channeling of this talent into creative
13 endeavors; and

14 Whereas, the graduates and former students of A & T State University
15 continue to achieve national and international prominence in a number of career fields;
16 and

17 Whereas, the University, through its Chancellor, faculty, staff, administrative
18 team, students, Board of Trustees, Board of Visitors, and alumni, has developed an
19 inspired Long Range Plan and Vision statement to move the University confidently into
20 the 21st Century;

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

22 Section 1. The General Assembly recognizes and honors the founders of the
23 North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University for its vision, commends the
24 University for its contributions to North Carolina and its people, extends congratulations
25 on the occasion of the institution's Centennial celebration, and eagerly anticipates a
26 second century of service by the University on behalf of the people of North Carolina
27 and the nation.

28 Sec. 2. In order to recognize further the Centennial celebration of the North
29 Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, the General Assembly urges the
30 Governor to issue a proclamation commemorating the founding of the North Carolina
31 Agricultural and Technical State University on March 9, 1891.

32 Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall send a certified copy of this resolution to
33 Edward B. Fort, the eighth chief executive officer of North Carolina Agricultural and
34 Technical State University and the third to hold the title as its Chancellor, and to
35 Governor James G. Martin.

36 Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.