

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 819

Sponsors: Senators Cochrane; Allran, Ballantine, Carpenter, Carrington, East, Forrester, Foxx, Garwood, Gulley, Hartsell, Horton, Kerr, Martin of Pitt, Moore, Phillips, Purcell, Rucho, Webster, and Wellons.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

April 12, 1999

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF WILMER
2 DAVID "VINEGAR BEND" MIZELL, FORMER NORTH CAROLINA
3 CONGRESSMAN.

4 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was born in Vinegar Bend, Alabama, on
5 August 13, 1930, to Walter David Mizell and Addie Turner Mizell; and

6 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was affectionately known as "Vinegar Bend";
7 and

8 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell graduated from Leakesville High School in
9 Leakesville, Mississippi, in 1949; and

10 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell married the late Nancy McAlpine on
11 November 16, 1952; and

12 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell proudly served his country as a member of the
13 United States Army from 1953 to 1955; and

14 Whereas, during Wilmer David Mizell's early adult years, he pitched for the St.
15 Louis Cardinals, the Pittsburgh Pirates, and the New York Mets; and

16 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell retired from baseball in 1963 and accepted a
17 position with the Pepsi-Cola Company in Winston-Salem working in the field of sales
18 management and public relations; and

19 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell served as a County Commissioner for
20 Davidson County from 1966 to 1968; and

1 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell served with honor and distinction as a member
2 of the United States House of Representatives, representing North Carolina's Fifth
3 Congressional District from 1968 to 1974; and

4 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell served as Assistant Secretary of Economic
5 Development under President Gerald Ford, as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture under
6 President Ronald Reagan, and as a member of the Council on Physical Fitness under
7 President George Bush; and

8 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was a staunch Republican who never wavered
9 from his beliefs, which earned him admiration and respect from his peers, colleagues, and
10 the citizens he represented; and

11 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was named the Southern Baptist Christian
12 Athlete of the Year in 1951 and was presented the Distinguished Citizen Award of 1969
13 by George Washington University; and

14 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was active in civic and community
15 organizations, including the American Legion, and served as Chair of the Board of
16 Trustees of Toccoa Falls College in Toccoa Falls, Georgia; and

17 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was a faithful member of Faith Missionary
18 Alliance Church in Winston-Salem, serving as a lay speaker, deacon, Sunday school
19 superintendent, and church board member; and

20 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell died on February 21, 1999; and

21 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell was a devoted husband and loving father and
22 grandfather; and

23 Whereas, Wilmer David Mizell is survived by his wife, Ruth Cox Mizell, two
24 sons, David Mizell and Danny Mizell, two stepchildren, Larry Laws and Linda Pate, four
25 grandchildren and three stepgrandchildren; Now, therefore,

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

27 Section 1. The General Assembly expresses high regard for the life and
28 service of Wilmer David "Vinegar Bend" Mizell and mourns the loss of one of North
29 Carolina's beloved and respected citizens.

30 Section 2. The General Assembly extends its sincere sympathy to the family of
31 Wilmer David Mizell for the loss of its family member.

32 Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
33 resolution to the family of Wilmer David Mizell.

34 Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.