

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1118
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/6/05**

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 5, 2005

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JUNE
2 ELIZABETH KAY CAMPBELL, FORMER CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER.

3 Whereas, June Elizabeth Kay was born on August 19, 1925, in Wilmington,
4 North Carolina, to Dr. John Walcott Kay and Willie Otey Kay; and

5 Whereas, June Kay moved with her family to the City of Raleigh, where she
6 grew up and graduated from Washington High School in 1944; and

7 Whereas, June Kay attended Shaw University and later took courses at North
8 Carolina State University; and

9 Whereas, June Kay married Ralph Campbell on January 1, 1946, and together
10 they had four children; and

11 Whereas, June Kay Campbell served as an Administrative Secretary at St.
12 Augustine's College for 31 years prior to retiring in 1992; and

13 Whereas, June Kay Campbell and Ralph Campbell, Sr., became active in the
14 civil rights movement during the 1950s and 1960s, and quickly became influential
15 leaders who were admired and respected by the members of their community; and

16 Whereas, June Kay Campbell was an ardent supporter of her husband, who
17 served as president of the local chapter of the NAACP and the Raleigh-Wake Citizens
18 Association; and

19 Whereas, June Kay Campbell provided support and encouragement, along
20 with many home-cooked meals, to area civil rights leaders, often referred to as the Oval
21 Table Gang, who frequently held strategy sessions in the Campbell home around her
22 oval kitchen table; and

23 Whereas, on September 7, 1960, June Kay Campbell, with courage,
24 confidence, and dignity, escorted her son, Bill, on his first day to school at the formerly
25 all-white Murphey Elementary School, paving the way for the integration of the Raleigh
26 Public School System; and

27 Whereas, despite malicious taunts and threats of violence, June Kay
28 Campbell walked Bill to school every day for three years; and

29 Whereas, June Kay Campbell above all was a loving and nurturing mother,
30 who wanted the best for her children and was proud of all of them, including son,

1 Ralph, Jr., who served on the Raleigh City Council from 1985 to 1992 and became the
2 first African-American to be elected to a statewide constitutional office in North
3 Carolina, serving as State Auditor from 1993 to 2005, and son, Bill, who became a
4 lawyer and served two terms as the Mayor of the City of Atlanta from 1994 to 2002;
5 and

6 Whereas, June Kay Campbell was a faithful member of the St. Ambrose
7 Episcopal Church, where she was a member of the Altar Guild, Absalom Jones Prayer
8 Guild, and the Omega Choir; and

9 Whereas, June Kay Campbell was a dedicated volunteer for Meals on Wheels
10 and an active member of numerous civic groups, including the Gay Matrons, the
11 Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association (RWCA), Daughters of Isis, the Links, Inc., Jack &
12 Jill of America, Inc., and Chums, Inc.; and

13 Whereas, June Kay Campbell died on August 19, 2004, at the age of 79; and

14 Whereas, June Kay Campbell will be fondly remembered for her quiet,
15 unassuming nature, and her undying devotion and love for her family, church,
16 community, and State; and

17 Whereas, June Kay Campbell was predeceased by her beloved husband,
18 Ralph Campbell, Sr., who died in 1983; but leaves to survive her adored children: Ralph
19 Campbell, Jr., Mildred Campbell Christmas, William C. "Bill" Campbell, and Edwin
20 Campbell, Sr.; and cherished grandchildren: June Christmas, William Campbell,
21 Christina Campbell, Edwin Campbell, Jr., and Rachel Campbell; Now, therefore,
22 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

23 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of June Elizabeth
24 Kay Campbell and recognizes her contributions and accomplishments in the area of
25 civil rights.

26 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the
27 family and friends of June Elizabeth Kay Campbell for the loss of a beloved family
28 member and friend.

29 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
30 resolution to the family of June Elizabeth Kay Campbell.

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