

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 894

Sponsors: Senator Blue (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

June 8, 2016

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JOHN RICHARD
2 JORDAN, JR., FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was born on January 16, 1921, in Winton, North
4 Carolina, to John Richard Jordan, Sr., and Ina Love Mitchell Jordan; and

5 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., graduated from the University of North Carolina at
6 Chapel Hill where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1942 and was awarded a
7 Doctor of Jurisprudence with honors in 1948; and

8 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., established a law firm in Raleigh, from which he
9 practiced for over 50 years in the areas of banking and financial institutions and appeared before
10 State and federal courts; and

11 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., served as special counsel for the North Carolina State
12 Banking Commission and the Banking Department of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

13 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., served with honor and distinction in the General
14 Assembly as a member of the Senate for three terms between 1959 and 1964; and

15 Whereas, during his tenure in the Senate, John R. Jordan, Jr., focused mainly on
16 education issues and was well-known for refusing his per diem, salary, and special legislative
17 license plate; and

18 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., served on the Board of Governors of The University of
19 North Carolina for 24 years, longer than any other member in State history and, during that time,
20 was chair for two terms; and

21 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., served his profession in many capacities, including as a
22 member of the North Carolina Bar Association, American Bar Association, International Bar
23 Association, World Jurist Conference, and Judicial Conference of the United States Court of
24 Appeals; and

25 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., served on many boards and commissions, including the
26 North Carolina Board of Social Services, Commission on Education Beyond High School,
27 Commission on Medical Aid for the Aged, Commission for the Study of the Uniform Commercial
28 Code, North Carolina Legislative Reappointment Commission, North Carolina Aquarium Society,
29 North Carolina Community Foundation, and North Carolina Museum of History; and

30 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was active in a number of organizations, including the
31 North Carolina Cancer Society, of which he was at varying times director, president, and chair;
32 North Carolina Cancer Institute (trustee); Governor's Cancer Commission (member); North
33 Carolina Medical Foundation (member); American Red Cross (chair of the State chapter); and
34 North Carolina Division of the National Myasthenia Gravis Foundation (director); and

35 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was a member of numerous civic and fraternal
36 organizations, including the Sphinx Club of Raleigh, Raleigh Host Lions Club, and Pi Kappa
37 Alpha Fraternity; and



1 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was also the recipient of many other awards and honors,
2 including the Distinguished Service Award in Public Health, North Carolina American Cancer
3 Society's National Gold Medal, and the University Award, the highest civilian honor bestowed by
4 the State of North Carolina; and

5 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the North Carolina
6 Bar Association in recognition of his long and distinguished legal career, and he was awarded the
7 Distinguished Alumnus Award by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law;
8 and

9 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., enjoyed writing as a creative outlet and had several
10 political and historical articles published in various newspapers and other media and contributed to
11 the Dictionary of North Carolina Biography; and

12 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was a passionate reader and collector of books; he
13 established a library collection of thousands of books at his home in Raleigh and his former home
14 in Winton and gifted hundreds of books to friends, colleagues, and educational institutions; and

15 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., never forgot his hometown or its people and, throughout
16 his lifetime, worked to enhance the life and culture in Winton by creating a foundation to benefit
17 historical and cultural events in Hertford County, establishing the Century Post Office Museum in
18 a building that served as an early rural post office and restoring the Colonial Kitchen Museum, the
19 only building in town to survive destruction from Union troops in 1862; and

20 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., was a member of First Baptist Church in Raleigh and
21 served on the Diaconate of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church and Ridge Road Baptist Church; and

22 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., died on March 9, 2016, at the age of 95; and

23 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., is survived by his devoted wife of over 33 years, Brenda
24 Moore Jordan, and a stepson, E. Scott Harlow; and

25 Whereas, John R. Jordan, Jr., is also survived by a daughter, Ellen Meares Jordan
26 McCarren, and a son, John Richard Jordan III, from his first marriage to the late Patricia Weaver
27 Jordan, and four grandchildren, John Richard Jordan IV, Jordan Patrick McCarren, Frances Marie
28 Jordan Merchwart, and Katherine Buckley McCarren; Now, therefore,
29 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

30 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly of North Carolina honors the memory of John
31 Richard Jordan, Jr., and expresses its appreciation for his many accomplishments and the
32 distinguished service he rendered his community and State.

33 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the family and
34 friends of John Richard Jordan, Jr., for the loss of a beloved family member and friend.

35 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
36 to the family of John Richard Jordan, Jr.

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