

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013**

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1012

Sponsors: Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House (Primary Sponsor).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to:

May 29, 2013

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PRELIMINARY
2 EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

3 Whereas, on September 22, 1862, following the Union victory at Antietam (Battle
4 of Sharpsburg), President Abraham Lincoln signed the Preliminary Emancipation
5 Proclamation; and

6 Whereas, this document stated in part that "all persons held as slaves within any
7 State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the
8 United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free"; and

9 Whereas, by issuing the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln
10 formally alerted the Confederacy of his intention to free all persons held as slaves within those
11 states if they did not rejoin the Union within 100 days; and

12 Whereas, on January 1, 1863, in the midst of the American Civil War, President
13 Abraham Lincoln issued the final Emancipation Proclamation, which paved the way for the
14 adoption of the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery in the United States; and

15 Whereas, the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation is considered one of the most
16 significant documents in the history of the United States; and

17 Whereas, this historical seven-page document, on loan from the National Archives,
18 will be on display at the North Carolina Museum of History from May 15, 2013, through June
19 16, 2013, giving the people of this State the opportunity to view a document that is rarely on
20 display; and

21 Whereas, the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation is part of the exhibit
22 "Freedom Coming, Freedom for All," which follows a time line of events focusing on the status
23 of North Carolina before the Civil War, events leading up to Lincoln's issuance of the
24 Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, and outcomes and results of the document in the State
25 and nation, as well as the differences between the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, the
26 final Emancipation Proclamation, and the 13th Amendment; and

27 Whereas, the content and historical significance of the Preliminary Emancipation
28 Proclamation should be embraced by all North Carolinians; Now, therefore,
29 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

30 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives encourages the people of this State to
31 visit the North Carolina Museum of History to view the Preliminary Emancipation
32 Proclamation.

33 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives honors President Abraham Lincoln,
34 the nation's 16th president, for his resolute and undaunted actions, including the issuance of the



- 1 Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, during one of the most significant periods in the
2 history of our nation.
3 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.