

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1985 SESSION
RATIFIED BILL

RESOLUTION 3
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 64

A JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MARCH 10 THROUGH 16 AS "EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER WEEK" AND TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF PEOPLE THROUGHOUT HISTORY WHO ACCOMPLISHED GREAT THINGS LATE IN LIFE.

Whereas, more than 35,000 North Carolinians age 45 or older are currently seeking employment; and

Whereas, the life expectancy for older Americans is increasing and older Americans are retaining their physical and mental abilities longer than ever before; and

Whereas, mature workers bring to a job the expertise, knowledge, skills, talents, and experiences which age has enabled them to accumulate; and

Whereas, it is short-sighted for society to discard older persons as useless persons or dependent, unproductive, "drop-outs" from the world they helped to make, instead of viewing them as an enriching and productive resource that is self-sustaining, creative, and essential to the State; and

Whereas, letting older persons work longer will decrease the burden on Social Security, pensions, and welfare benefits and will enable older persons to keep up with the rate of inflation; and

Whereas, last year the General Assembly recognized the productivity of the State's older workers by abolishing the mandatory retirement age for most State government employees; and

Whereas, demographers predict that by the turn of the century, older persons will account for at least eighteen percent (18%) of the total population and they will necessarily be a major work force; and

Whereas, potential future labor shortages could be avoided if older Americans were retrained and employed;

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

Section 1. The General Assembly designates the week of March 10 through 16, 1985, as "Employ the Older Worker Week" in North Carolina in recognition of the many and valuable contributions older workers make to the State and the General Assembly encourages employers to hire older workers.

Sec. 2. The General Assembly honors the memory of people throughout history who accomplished great things late in life including Grandma Moses, Colonel Sanders, George Bernard Shaw, Pablo Picasso, Winston Churchill, Bertrand Russell, Pablo Casals, Carl Sandburg, Golda Meir, Casey Stengel, Ray Kroc, Benjamin Franklin, Jimmy Durante, Buckminster Fuller, Sam Rayburn, Robert Frost, Henri Matisse, and Albert Schweitzer.

Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 8th day of March, 1985.