

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1989**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2386**

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Sponsors: Representatives DeVane, Hasty, and Locks.

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Referred to: Rules Suspended; Passed 2nd, 3rd, Sent to Senate.

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June 11, 1990

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JOHN KNOX  
2 MCNEILL, JR., FORMER MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RAEFORD, AND  
3 RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL TURKEY LOVERS'  
4 MONTH IN HIS HONOR.

5       Whereas, John K. McNeill, Jr., was born on August 25, 1920, in Hoke  
6 County, North Carolina; and

7       Whereas, John K. McNeill, Jr., was a graduate of Louisburg College; and

8       Whereas, John K. McNeill, Jr., faithfully served the citizens of the City of  
9 Raeford as city councilman for 16 years, and as mayor for the last 21 years; and

10       Whereas, Mayor McNeill served the State of North Carolina as a planner with  
11 the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development for seventeen  
12 years; and

13       Whereas, throughout the course of Mayor McNeill's long career of public  
14 service, the City of Raeford experienced unprecedented growth; and

15       Whereas, Mayor McNeill's leadership resulted in water and sewer  
16 improvements necessary to recruit what have become the four main industries in  
17 Raeford: Burlington Industries, Faberge, Spanco, and House of Raeford; and

18       Whereas, Mayor McNeill died on January 14, 1990, and is survived by his  
19 wife, Ruth, his sons Steve, Jeff, and John K. McNeill III, his daughter Lynn, four  
20 brothers, and eight grandchildren; and

21       Whereas, one aspect of Mayor McNeill's diligent leadership was his  
22 enthusiastic support of the North Carolina Turkey Festival held annually in the City of  
23 Raeford; and

1           Whereas, the City of Raeford is the home of Wyatt G. Upchurch, President of  
2 the National Turkey Federation, who also serves as Chairman of the Hoke County  
3 Board of County Commissioners; and

4           Whereas, North Carolina is now the leading turkey-producing State in the  
5 nation, having produced over 50 million turkeys in 1989; and

6           Whereas, the National Turkey Federation has declared June 1990, to be the  
7 first annual National Turkey Lovers' Month;

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

9           Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina wishes to honor the life  
10 and memory of John Knox McNeill, Jr., and expresses the gratitude and appreciation of  
11 both the City of Raeford and the State of North Carolina for his life and service to  
12 Raeford and to North Carolina.

13           Sec. 2. The General Assembly of North Carolina wishes to recognize Mr.  
14 McNeill's contributions to the development of the turkey industry in North Carolina,  
15 and to recognize the vital role of that industry in this State, during this first annual  
16 National Turkey Lovers' Month.

17           Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution  
18 to the family of John Knox McNeill, Jr., to the City of Raeford, and to the National  
19 Turkey Federation.

20           Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.