

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1301

Sponsors: Representative Lee.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

May 7, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF LINDSEY
2 GUY DEWITT AND RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA AS THE NASCAR
3 STOCK CAR RACING CAPITAL OF THE WORLD.

4 Whereas, on October 7, 1990, Richmond County lost one of its most
5 prominent citizens with the death of Lindsey Guy DeWitt; and

6 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt was born on March 23, 1912, in Camden,
7 South Carolina, to Jesse Sterling DeWitt and Hattie Ward DeWitt; and

8 Whereas, in 1924, Lindsey Guy DeWitt moved with his family to Ellerbe,
9 North Carolina; and

10 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt graduated from Ellerbe High School in 1928;
11 and

12 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt married Carrie Bowles in 1935, and from their
13 marriage two daughters, Jo and Nancy, were born; and

14 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt was a successful entrepreneur in Richmond
15 County, where he was owner and president of L.G. DeWitt Trucking Company, Textile
16 Motor Freight, North State Orchards, and numerous other business ventures; and

17 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt helped to organize the Richmond County
18 Bank, and, for a time, had the distinction of being the largest peach grower in the world;
19 and

20 Whereas, in 1965, Lindsey Guy DeWitt was among a group of business
21 people who joined together to complete the construction of the North Carolina Motor
22 Speedway in Richmond County; and

1 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt was president of the Richmond County
2 facility from 1972 until his death in 1990; and

3 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt's involvement in motor sports led to the
4 formation of his own NASCAR racing team, DeWitt Racing Enterprises, in 1966; and

5 Whereas, in 1973, Lindsey Guy DeWitt's racing team won the Winston Cup
6 Championship and in 1975, his racing team won the Daytona 500; and

7 Whereas, John Sears of Ellerbe was the first driver for the racing team and
8 former Grand National Champion Benny Parsons, also of Ellerbe, later became the
9 driver; and

10 Whereas, in 1975, Lindsey Guy DeWitt became president of the Atlanta
11 International Raceway and guided it out of bankruptcy; and

12 Whereas, Lindsey Guy DeWitt played an important role in the growth of
13 NASCAR stock car racing; and

14 Whereas, today, NASCAR stock car racing is the fastest growing spectator
15 sport in the United States; and

16 Whereas, the Winston Cup Races are held annually in Rockingham,
17 Charlotte, and North Wilkesboro; and

18 Whereas, the Coca-Cola 600, held annually on the last Sunday in May at the
19 Charlotte Motor Speedway, attracts 180,000 spectators, more than any other spectator
20 sport with the exception of the Indianapolis 500 held on the same day; and

21 Whereas, in the late 1980s, a study conducted by North Carolina State
22 University and the North Carolina Department of Commerce concluded that
23 motorsports contributed \$500,000,000 to the State's economy; and

24 Whereas, today, that figure has climbed to over one billion dollars; and

25 Whereas, over 75% of the equipment used in stock car racing is produced and
26 sold in North Carolina; and

27 Whereas, over 70% of the top Winston Cup stock car teams are
28 headquartered in North Carolina; and

29 Whereas, over 75% of the Grand National stock car teams are based in North
30 Carolina; and

31 Whereas, stock car racing has created thousands of new jobs for North
32 Carolinians;

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

34 Section 1. The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Lindsey
35 Guy DeWitt and expresses the deep gratitude and appreciation of this State and its
36 citizens for his life and service to his community and State.

37 Sec. 2. The General Assembly wishes to recognize North Carolina as the
38 NASCAR Stock Car Racing Capital of the World and encourages the citizens of this
39 State to attend stock car racing events held in North Carolina.

40 Sec. 3. The General Assembly expresses its sincere sympathy to the family
41 and friends of Lindsey Guy DeWitt for their loss.

42 Sec. 4. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
43 to the family of Lindsey Guy DeWitt.

44 Sec. 5. This resolution is effective upon ratification.