

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1498

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Sponsors: Representatives Culpepper, James, and Rogers.

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Referred to:

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July 22, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LATE RAYMOND MARKHAM  
2 "PETE" THOMPSON, SR., FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY.

4       Whereas, on April 23, 1993, the State of North Carolina and especially  
5 Eastern North Carolina, suffered a great loss with the untimely death of Representative  
6 Raymond Markham Thompson, Sr.; and

7       Whereas, Raymond Markham Thompson, Sr. was born in the Community of  
8 Weeksville in Pasquotank County, on September 17, 1925, to Wallace L. Thompson, Sr.  
9 and Minnie Markham Thompson; and

10       Whereas, Raymond Markham Thompson, Sr. was better known to his wide  
11 variety of friends, acquaintances, and associates as "Pete" Thompson; and

12       Whereas, Pete Thompson graduated from Elizabeth City High School in  
13 1943, and then served in the United States Coast Guard as a Signaller, Third Class,  
14 during World War II from 1943 until 1946, and was decorated for service in the Pacific  
15 and Atlantic; and

16       Whereas, after serving in the military, Pete Thompson attended North  
17 Carolina State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural  
18 Education in 1950; and

19       Whereas, Pete Thompson made no secret of his fierce devotion to North  
20 Carolina State University, forever championing his alma mater upon every opportunity  
21 to do so; and

22       Whereas, Pete Thompson married Carolyn Pemberton of Raleigh on June 9,  
23 1949, and from their union, three children were born; and

1           Whereas, Pete Thompson made a lifelong career in agriculture; he taught  
2 Vocational Agriculture from 1950 until 1951, served as Assistant Perquimans County  
3 Agent from 1951 until 1954, served as Chair of the Perquimans County Extension  
4 Service from 1954 until 1970, served as Chair of the Chowan County Extension Service  
5 from 1970 until 1981, served as a Farm Consultant with Peoples Bank from 1981 until  
6 1983, and served as Manager for Chowan Storage from 1983 until 1987; and

7           Whereas, Pete Thompson was a member of numerous community, civic, and  
8 fraternal organizations including the County Agents Association, Epsilon Sigma Phi, the  
9 Hertford Lions Club, the Ruritan Club, the Edenton Lions Club, the American Legion  
10 Post #40, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Masonic Order, Unanimity Lodge No. 7;  
11 and

12           Whereas, Pete Thompson served on the Board of Directors of Chowan  
13 Hospital from 1977 until 1982 and of Peoples Bank from 1980 until his death; and

14           Whereas, during his life Pete Thompson displayed a zeal for life and a  
15 concern for others that greatly benefitted his fellow man; and

16           Whereas, Pete Thompson was elected to and served with honor and  
17 distinction in the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1987 until 1993; and

18           Whereas, as a member of the State House, Representative Thompson served  
19 on numerous committees, and most recently served as Chair of the House Local and  
20 Regional Government I Committee, as Vice-Chair of Finance, and as a member of the  
21 Agriculture, Environment, and Public Utilities Committees; and

22           Whereas, during his service in the General Assembly, Representative  
23 Thompson spearheaded many initiatives, including improvements in the highway  
24 system of Eastern North Carolina, promotion of tourism, improvements to the State day  
25 care system, protection of children, and enhanced protection of the environment; and

26           Whereas, Representative Thompson displayed a subtle presence as he walked  
27 the halls of the General Assembly; he was acutely informed on all major issues and  
28 knowledgeable about a majority of the legislation before the General Assembly; and

29           Whereas, Representative Thompson always displayed an affection and  
30 concern for the problems of every citizen in his District and that forever improved the  
31 quality of life for those citizens; and

32           Whereas, Pete Thompson was a member of the Edenton United Methodist  
33 Church and served as a Sunday School Teacher from 1972 until 1983; and

34           Whereas, Pete Thompson was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather;  
35 and

36           Whereas, Pete Thompson will be forever remembered for his infectious smile  
37 and for his quiet, unassuming mannerisms which brought him affection and respect  
38 from all who came to know him; and

39           Whereas, Pete Thompson is survived by two daughters, Gayle Norton and  
40 Sharon Farless; a son, R. Mark Thompson, Jr.; five grandchildren; and several other  
41 family members;

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

43           Section 1. The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Raymond  
44 Markham "Pete" Thompson, Sr. and expresses the gratitude and appreciation of this

1 State and its citizens for his life and service to his community, to his State, and to his  
2 country.

3           Sec. 2. The General Assembly expresses its deep sorrow to the family and  
4 friends of Raymond Markham "Pete"Thompson, Sr. for the loss of a beloved father and  
5 grandfather, and a true friend.

6           Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution  
7 to the family of Raymond Markham Thompson, Sr.

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