

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1211

Sponsors: Senators Horton; McDaniel, Speed, Cochrane, Lucas, Ballance, Smith, Soles, Foxx, Shaw, McKoy, Clark, Ledbetter, Blust, Odom, Hobbs, Jordan, Plexico, East, Martin of Pitt, Hoyle, Warren, Davis, Rand, Martin of Guilford, Basnight, Kerr, and Little.

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

May 16, 1996

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF GOVERNOR
2 JOHN MOTLEY MOREHEAD ON THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
3 OF HIS BIRTH.

4 Whereas, the State of North Carolina has benefitted greatly from the life and
5 legacy of service that John Motley Morehead left to all the people of this State; and

6 Whereas, John Motley Morehead, the eldest son of John and Obedience
7 Motley Morehead, was born on July 4, 1796, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia; and

8 Whereas, at the age of two, John Motley Morehead's family moved to
9 Rockingham County, North Carolina; and

10 Whereas, after graduating from the University of North Carolina in 1817,
11 John Motley Morehead began to study law, later practicing law in Rockingham and
12 Guilford Counties; and

13 Whereas, John Motley Morehead married Ann Eliza Lindsay in 1821, and
14 was the father of eight children: Letitia Harper Morehead, Mary Corinna Morehead,
15 Ann Eliza Morehead, Mary Louise Morehead, Emma Victoria Morehead, John Lindsay
16 Morehead, James Turner Morehead, and Eugene Lindsay Morehead; and

17 Whereas, John Motley Morehead settled his family in Guilford County and
18 erected his "Blandwood" home in 1825, which is preserved as a National Historic
19 Landmark; and

1 Whereas, John Motley Morehead was a true statesman, serving in the House
2 of Commons in 1821, 1826, 1827, and 1858, in the Senate in 1860, in the Provisional
3 Congress and the Peace Conference in 1861, and as a delegate to the State
4 Constitutional Convention in 1835; and

5 Whereas, John Motley Morehead served as Governor of North Carolina from
6 1841 to 1845; and

7 Whereas, John Motley Morehead was an advocate of a system of free public
8 schools and it was during his tenure as Governor that the State established its first
9 public school system; and

10 Whereas, John Motley Morehead served as a Trustee of the University of
11 North Carolina for 38 years; and

12 Whereas, John Motley Morehead's other noted accomplishments include:

13 - The founding of the Edgeworth Female Seminary, a privately owned
14 school for women in Greensboro;

15 - The founding of the North Carolina Railroad of which he served as its
16 first president;

17 - The establishment of the first cotton mill in Rockingham County;

18 - The founding of a deepwater port on the coast of North Carolina that
19 was named Morehead City in his honor;

20 - The establishment of the Governor Morehead School in Raleigh;

21 - The introduction of bills to improve the living conditions of slaves and
22 also of a bill granting emancipation to slaves under certain conditions
23 prior to the Civil War; and

24 Whereas, John Motley Morehead died on August 27, 1866; and

25 Whereas, on the 200th Anniversary of John Motley Morehead's birth, it is
26 fitting that the General Assembly honors his life and memory by recognizing the many
27 benefits bestowed to North Carolina due to the great leadership and accomplishments of
28 Governor John Motley Morehead;

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

30 Section 1. The General Assembly honors the life and memory of John
31 Motley Morehead. The General Assembly urges the citizens of this State to participate
32 in all activities marking the 200th Anniversary of John Motley Morehead's birth.

33 Sec. 2. A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted by the Secretary of
34 State to the family of John Motley Morehead.

35 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.