

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

**H**

**1**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1459**

---

Sponsors: Representatives Alexander; Dedmon, Clary, and Weatherly.

---

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

---

June 25, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DR. T.  
2 REGINALD HARRIS, CHAMPION OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS FOR NORTH  
3 CAROLINA'S INDIGENT POPULATIONS, AND EXPRESSING THE INTENT  
4 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PURSUE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE  
5 FOR ALL.

6       Whereas, Dr. T. Reginald Harris dedicated his life to medicine, taking a  
7 leadership role in advancing the practice of medicine and providing quality health care  
8 for the citizens of North Carolina; and

9       Whereas, Dr. Harris was active throughout his medical career, serving in a  
10 variety of posts including Chairman of the Department of Medicine and Chief of Staff  
11 of Cleveland County Regional Medical Center, and participated in planning activities  
12 locally and regionally with involvement in health planning systems, the North Carolina  
13 Regional Medical Program, the North Carolina Health Coordinating Council, peer  
14 review organizations, and rural health initiatives; and

15       Whereas, Dr. Harris was especially dedicated to ensuring health care access  
16 for all North Carolinians, serving as Chairman of the Cleveland County Board of Health  
17 and assisting in the organization and establishment of five primary care clinics in three  
18 counties, Chairman of the Medical Mutual Insurance Company, Chairman of CLECO  
19 Primary Care Network, and vice-president of the North Carolina Peer Review; and

20       Whereas, Dr. Harris also served as President of the North Carolina Medical  
21 Society, Speaker of the North Carolina Medical Society House of Delegates, a member  
22 of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Medical Society Foundation, and a  
23 member of the North Carolina Medical Society Executive Committee; and

24       Whereas, Dr. Harris believed a healthy populace is a critical ingredient in  
25 North Carolina's efforts to achieve progress in all areas of the State's development and  
26 that of its citizens; and

27       Whereas, the optimal health of the people is largely dependent upon  
28 reasonable access to quality health care at an affordable cost; and

1           Whereas, the State of North Carolina has, theretofore, not found it possible to  
2 design and finance a system of health care services available and accessible to all within  
3 its borders; Now, therefore,

4 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

5           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Dr. T.  
6 Reginald Harris and expresses appreciation for the contributions he made to the State of  
7 North Carolina and its citizens. The General Assembly recognizes the tremendous  
8 impact he had on improving the health of the citizens of North Carolina and his  
9 dedication to providing access to health care services for all.

10          **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly recognizes clearly the enormous  
11 benefits to be gained on behalf of the State and its citizens should a means be devised  
12 and implemented to provide access to quality, affordable health care to all within its  
13 borders.

14          **SECTION 3.** The General Assembly shall adopt as an important objective  
15 the realization of the goal of health care access for all.

16          **SECTION 4.** The General Assembly shall strive, as resources and methods  
17 become available, to support the development and financing of a health care system  
18 likely to achieve the objective of access to quality health care for all.

19          **SECTION 5.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.