

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1342

Sponsors: Representatives Mitchell; Coates, Steen, Goodwin, Alexander, Dickson, Gillespie, Glazier, Pate, Rayfield, Setzer, and Weiss.

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

May 10, 2004

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF WILLARD
2 EUGENE "GENE" MCCOMBS, FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY.

4 Whereas, Willard Eugene "Gene" McCombs was born on June 16, 1925, in
5 Faith, North Carolina, to Junius Ray McCombs and Ethel Irene Peeler McCombs; and

6 Whereas, Gene McCombs graduated from Granite Quarry High School in
7 1942 and attended Catawba College; and

8 Whereas, Gene McCombs served as a private with the 31st Infantry in the
9 United States Army from 1943 to 1946; and

10 Whereas, Gene McCombs was a merchant who successfully ran McCombs &
11 Co., a family-owned grocery store, until 1999; and

12 Whereas, Gene McCombs dutifully served the people of Faith and Rowan
13 County in various public offices for more than 35 years; and

14 Whereas, Gene McCombs served on the Faith Board of Aldermen from 1948
15 to 1959 and served as Mayor of Faith from 1959 to 1961; and

16 Whereas, Gene McCombs served on the Rowan County Board of
17 Commissioners from 1966 to 1976, eight of those years as Chair, and from 1980 to
18 1982; and

19 Whereas, Gene McCombs served with honor and distinction as a member of
20 the General Assembly from 1993 to 2003; and

21 Whereas, during his six terms in the House of Representatives, Gene
22 McCombs made contributions as a member of numerous committees and commissions,
23 including Pensions and Retirement, Congressional Redistricting, Education, Finance,
24 Public Utilities, Rules, and Environment and Natural Resources Committees; and

25 Whereas, Gene McCombs was active in his community serving as a member
26 of the Jaycees, Civitan Club, and American Legion Post 327; and

27 Whereas, Gene McCombs served as Chair of the Rowan County Board of
28 Health for 10 years and as a Governor's appointee to the Law and Order Commission;
29 and

1 Whereas, Gene McCombs was a member of Shiloh United Church of Christ;
2 and

3 Whereas, Gene McCombs received the Jaycees' Distinguished Service Award
4 and the Rowan Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Service Award and was twice
5 named "Man of the Year" by the Faith Civitan Club; and

6 Whereas, Gene McCombs died on January 20, 2004, at the age of 78; and

7 Whereas, Gene McCombs is survived by his wife, Jean; son, Keith; daughter,
8 Pam; and four grandchildren; and

9 Whereas, Gene McCombs will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and
10 colleagues; Now, therefore,

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

12 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life, memory, and service of
13 Willard Eugene McCombs and expresses its gratitude for his service to the people of his
14 district, State, and country.

15 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its heartfelt sympathy to the
16 family of Willard Eugene McCombs for the loss of a beloved family member.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
18 resolution to the family of Willard Eugene McCombs.

19 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.