

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 555*

Sponsors: Representatives Lewis, Hill (Primary Sponsors); Baker, Creech, Daughtridge, LaRoque, Lucas, McLawhorn, Pate, Sauls, Warren, West, and C. Wilson.

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

March 19, 2003

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE
2 UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT AND ENACT LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH
3 A TOBACCO QUOTA BUYOUT PROGRAM.

4 Whereas, the system of growing and marketing burley and flue-cured tobacco
5 currently in place in the United States faces many challenges and changes due to
6 contracting, lawsuits, governmental regulation, and foreign competition; and

7 Whereas, quota owners, tobacco growers, and the tobacco industry agree that
8 a transition from the current system is needed to ensure continued viability in tobacco
9 production; and

10 Whereas, a plan of transition that is fair and equitable to all quota owners and
11 tobacco growers is needed to provide stability, uniformity, and certainty for quota
12 owners, growers, and the tobacco industry; and

13 Whereas, enabling family farmers and minority farmers both current and
14 future to attain economic viability in rural communities is an important goal of the
15 State; and

16 Whereas, a buyout of the quota owners and tobacco growers would provide a
17 significant and needed economic stimulus over a period of time in the State of North
18 Carolina during a time of economic distress; Now, therefore,

19 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

20 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina House of Representatives urges the
21 Congress of the United States and the President to support and enact legislation that
22 would establish a fair and equitable transition program for quota owners and tobacco
23 growers that would buy out quota owners and tobacco growers.

24 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit certified copies of this
25 resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the
26 House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and
27 Representative from North Carolina in the Congress of the United States.

28 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.