

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1237*

Sponsors: Representatives Womble, Oldham, Gray, Esposito, Decker, and Sexton.

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

June 19, 1997

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF MAZIE
2 SPENCER WOODRUFF, A DEVOTED PUBLIC SERVANT AND COMMUNITY
3 ACTIVIST.

4 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was born on September 25, 1922, to the
5 late William and Virgie Spencer; and

6 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff worked for and retired from the Hollady
7 Surgical Supply Company; and

8 Whereas, in 1976, Mazie Spencer Woodruff became the first African-
9 American to be elected to the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, on which she
10 served for 14 years; and

11 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was one of the original members of the
12 Winston-Salem Board of Directors of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank; and

13 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was a devoted and active member of her
14 community, serving on numerous boards and committees, including the Forsyth County
15 Board of Social Services, Forsyth County Library Board of Trustees, Forsyth County
16 Tourism Development Authority, Reynolds Health Center Advisory Committee,
17 Forsyth County Cooperative Extension Advisory Council, 4-H Advisory Committee,
18 Farm-City Committee, and Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments, and Cherry
19 Hill Community Club; and

20 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was a member of the Board of Directors
21 of the Red Cross, the Goodwill Industries, and the United Way; and

22 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff served on the Governor's Council on the
23 Status of Women and the North Carolina Mental Health Study Commission; and

1 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was a devoted volunteer for Meals-on-
2 Wheels of Winston-Salem and was a member of the American Legion Post 220; and

3 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff received numerous honors and awards,
4 including the Charles McLean Public Service Award, the NAACP Achievements
5 Award, and was recognized as the Winston-Salem Chronicle Woman of the Year in
6 1988, and as the Outstanding County Commissioner by the National Association of
7 Black County Officials in 1996; and

8 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was a deeply religious woman who was
9 actively involved in the Union Chapel Baptist Church, serving as a Sunday School
10 teacher and as a member of the Senior Usher Board; and

11 Whereas, on January 7, 1997, the State of North Carolina and Forsyth County
12 lost one of its most beloved and productive citizens with the death of Mazie Spencer
13 Woodruff; and

14 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff is survived by four sons, Melvin
15 Woodruff, Charles Woodruff, Robert Woodruff, and Kenneth Woodruff; three
16 daughters, Mildred Woodruff Strange, Sylvia Woodruff, and Arnetta Woodruff Hauser;
17 15 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Mabel Price; and

18 Whereas, Mazie Spencer Woodruff was respected, admired, and loved by
19 those who knew her and those who had the privilege of working with her; Now,
20 therefore,

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

22 Section 1. The General Assembly expresses its appreciation of Mazie
23 Spencer Woodruff as a devoted public servant and citizen and extends its sympathy to
24 her family and friends for their loss.

25 Section 2. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
26 resolution to the family of Mazie Spencer Woodruff.

27 Section 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.