

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011**

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION 653**

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Sponsors: Representatives Justice, McComas, and Bradley (Primary Sponsors).  
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

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

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April 7, 2011

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION OBSERVING THE TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH  
2 ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALIFAX RESOLVES.

3       Whereas, on April 4, 1776, North Carolina's Fourth Provincial Congress reconvened  
4 in Halifax, North Carolina, and soon after appointed a committee to consider additional actions  
5 to defend the colony against King George III and the British Parliament; and

6       Whereas, the committee included Cornelius Harnett, Allen Jones, Thomas Burke,  
7 and Abner Nash; and

8       Whereas, on April 12, 1776, the committee submitted a resolution to the Provincial  
9 Congress for consideration; and

10       Whereas, the resolution, which became known as the "Halifax Resolves," directed  
11 North Carolina's delegates to the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence from  
12 Britain, to join the other colonies in declaring independence, and to reserve the right for North  
13 Carolina to create a constitution; and

14       Whereas, the 83 delegates present unanimously adopted the Halifax Resolves; and

15       Whereas, North Carolina was the first colony to officially encourage independence  
16 from Britain, which was soon followed by other colonies adopting similar resolutions; and

17       Whereas, adoption of the Halifax Resolves is considered one of the most important  
18 events in North Carolina's history; and

19       Whereas, the date "April 12, 1776" appears as part of North Carolina's flag; and

20       Whereas, 2011 marks the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Halifax Resolves;

21 Now, therefore,

22 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

23       **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives wishes to pay tribute to Cornelius  
24 Harnett, Allen Jones, Thomas Burke, Abner Nash, and the other delegates to North Carolina's  
25 Fourth Provincial Congress for their brave action in seeking independence from Britain by  
26 adopting the Halifax Resolves.

27       **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives encourages the citizens of this State to  
28 learn more about North Carolina's Fourth Provincial Congress and their actions and to observe  
29 the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Halifax Resolves.

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

