

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1562

Sponsors: Representatives Lewis, Gibson, Hill, Weiss (Primary Sponsors); Alexander, L. Allen, Allred, Blackwood, Brown, Brubaker, Carney, Church, Cole, Crawford, Culpepper, Cunningham, Daughtride, Dollar, Folwell, Gillespie, Harrell, Hollo, Holloway, Johnson, Jones, Lucas, Miller, Pierce, Rapp, Stam, Starnes, Steen, Stiller, Sutton, Tucker, Underhill, Vinson, Wainwright, Warren, Wilkins, and Wilson.

Referred to:

April 26, 2005

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOHN DEERE AND
2 RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DEERE & COMPANY.

3 Whereas, John Deere was born in Rutland, Vermont, on February 7, 1804,
4 and was trained as a blacksmith; and

5 Whereas, John Deere developed the first successful steel plow, which had a
6 tremendous impact on the growth of agriculture in the United States; and

7 Whereas, John Deere founded the company that bore his name in 1837, which
8 later became Deere & Company in 1868; and

9 Whereas, Deere & Company is currently the world's leading manufacturer of
10 agriculture and forestry equipment, a major manufacturer of construction equipment,
11 and a leading supplier of equipment used in lawn, grounds, and turf care; and

12 Whereas, Deere & Company employs more than 46,000 employees
13 worldwide and does business in more than 160 countries; and

14 Whereas, Deere & Company has made an impact in the State of North
15 Carolina with more than 2,000 North Carolinians employed in four business operations
16 across the State; and

17 Whereas, Cary is the location of the John Deere Commercial and Consumer
18 Equipment Division's Worldwide Headquarters, which administers the manufacturing,
19 marketing, and sale of commercial mowing products, homeowner lawn tractors, utility
20 vehicles, utility tractors, and other machinery, and distributes these products to 60
21 countries; and

22 Whereas, in Kernersville, Deere & Company and Hitachi jointly manufacture
23 hydraulic excavators, which are widely used in the construction industry; and

1 Whereas, in Fuquay-Varina, John Deere Turf Care produces a multitude of
2 commercial and consumer grounds care products, which are mainly used for golf course
3 maintenance; and

4 Whereas, Charlotte is the site of the Deere & Company's SouthEast
5 Engineering Center, which focuses on engineering, technological development, testing,
6 and supply management for agriculture, commercial, and consumer equipment; and

7 Whereas, there are 99 John Deere dealerships across the State that greatly
8 contribute to the State's economy as employers, purchasers of goods and services, and
9 as taxpaying businesses; and

10 Whereas, Deere & Company spends more than \$168 million annually through
11 630 North Carolina suppliers; and

12 Whereas, Deere & Company supports numerous charitable organizations
13 throughout the State, enhancing the quality of life for North Carolina's citizens; and

14 Whereas, Deere & Company has upheld the values of quality, integrity,
15 innovation, and commitment first shown by the company's founder, John Deere, for 168
16 years; Now, therefore,

17 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

18 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of John
19 Deere, an innovator in agriculture and business, and commends the company he
20 founded, Deere & Company, for its many contributions to the State of North Carolina.

21 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this
22 resolution to the Director of Public Affairs of the John Deere Commercial and
23 Consumer Equipment Division's Worldwide Headquarters.

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