

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2005**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26\***

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Sponsors: Representatives Adams, Harrison, Jeffus, Jones (Primary Sponsors);  
Alexander, Farmer-Butterfield, Fisher, Parmon, Preston, Ross, and Weiss.

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Referred to: Calendar for immediate consideration pursuant to Rule 32(a).

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February 1, 2005

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE  
2 SIT-IN MOVEMENT THAT BEGAN IN THE CITY OF GREENSBORO ON THE  
3 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOVEMENT.

4 Whereas, on February 1, 1960, Ezell Blair, Jr., David Richmond, Joseph  
5 McNeil, and Franklin McCain, freshmen at North Carolina A & T State University, took  
6 a bold stand against rampant segregation in this country by sitting at the all-white lunch  
7 counter in the F.W. Woolworth department store in Greensboro and demanding service,  
8 which was denied; and

9 Whereas, on the following day, these young men returned to the store along  
10 with Billy Smith and Clarence Henderson, and others, only to be denied service again;  
11 and

12 Whereas, these events drew widespread media attention bringing focus to  
13 discriminatory practices against Blacks in the South and spotlighting the courage of  
14 these students; and

15 Whereas, the sit-ins fueled the movement to desegregate public facilities in  
16 this country and led to sleep-ins in segregated motels, kneel-ins in segregated churches,  
17 and swim-ins in segregated pools; and

18 Whereas, by August 1961, more than 70,000 people had participated in  
19 similar demonstrations across the country; and

20 Whereas, the actions of these brave young people were instrumental in the  
21 adoption of anti-discriminatory laws and policies that have led to a more diverse nation;  
22 and

23 Whereas, to acknowledge and honor the sacrifices and actions of the A & T  
24 students and many others, activities have been planned to commemorate the 45<sup>th</sup>  
25 anniversary of the Greensboro sit-ins; Now, therefore,

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

27 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the courageous actions of Ezell  
28 Blair, Jr., David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain to end racial

1 segregation. The General Assembly further honors the memory of David Richmond,  
2 who died in 1990.

3           **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
4 resolution to the International Civil Rights Center and Museum, Ezell Blair, Jr. (Jibreel  
5 Khazan), Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain, and the family of David Richmond.

6           **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.