

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2060

Sponsors: Senators Dorsett; Berger of Rockingham, Bingham, Hagan, and Rand.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

June 20, 2006

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF CHARLES JEWTRAW,
2 THE FIRST AMERICAN SPEED SKATER TO WIN A GOLD MEDAL DURING
3 THE 1924 WINTER OLYMPICS AND RECOGNIZING JOEY CHEEK, A
4 TWO-TIME OLYMPIAN AND NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE.

5 Whereas, Joey Cheek grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he
6 graduated from Dudley Senior High School in 1997; and

7 Whereas, during high school, Joey Cheek was an accomplished in-line skater,
8 who became a junior national champion, set junior national records in the 1,500-meter
9 and 3,000-meter events, and served as a member of two junior world in-line skating
10 teams; and

11 Whereas, in 1995, Joey Cheek took up speed skating, a sport in which he was
12 also successful; and

13 Whereas, while trying out for the 2002 Winter Olympics, Joey Cheek set
14 American records in the 500-meter and 1,000-meter speed skating events, which still
15 stand today; and

16 Whereas, Joey Cheek won his first Olympic medal during the 2002 Winter
17 Olympics, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, by capturing the bronze for his third place finish
18 in the 1,000-meter event; and

19 Whereas, during the 2006 Winter Olympics, Joey Cheek took the gold medal
20 in the 500-meter event and the silver in the 1,000-meter event; and

21 Whereas, Joey Cheek has served as a role model for young athletes on and off
22 the rink and has earned the admiration and love of thousands of fans around the world;
23 and

24 Whereas, Joey Cheek has given freely to many causes, including donating his
25 2006 Olympic bonus to Right to Play, an organization that supports children in
26 developing countries to play sports; and

27 Whereas, Joey Cheek continues this country's record of excellence in speed
28 skating, which began at the 1924 Winter Games in Chamonix, France, when the late
29 Charles Jewtraw, an American speed skater, won the first gold medal of the games in
30 the 500-meter race; and

1 Whereas, Joey Cheek deserves recognition for his tremendous athletic talent
2 and for the honor and distinction he has brought to North Carolina; Now, therefore,
3 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

4 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Charles Jewtraw
5 for his contributions to the sport of speed skating.

6 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly congratulates Joey Cheek on his
7 accomplishments in the sport of speed skating and expresses its appreciation for his
8 efforts to help others with his winnings and talent.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
10 resolution to Joey Cheek.

11 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.