

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2797**  
**SESSION LAW 2008-21**

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Sponsors: Representatives M. Alexander, Saunders (Primary Sponsors);  
K. Alexander, Carney, Cotham, Earle, Gulley, Killian, Samuelson,  
Tarleton, and Tillis.

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

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June 23, 2008

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF LOUISE  
2 SMITH BRENNAN, FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan was born in Chester, South Carolina, on  
4 November 11, 1922, to Tom Smith and Kate Varnadore Smith; and

5 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan graduated from Hartsell High School in  
6 1939 and later earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science and English from the  
7 University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 1970 at the age of 48; and

8 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan furthered her education by taking additional  
9 graduate courses at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

10 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan married Robert Thomas Sutton in 1949, and  
11 from their union, three children, Susan, Jane, and Robert, Jr., were born; and

12 Whereas, after the death of Robert Thomas Sutton, Sr., Louise Smith Brennan  
13 married Stanley L. Brennan on September 25, 1965; and

14 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan became active in politics and served the  
15 State and national Democratic party in many capacities, including serving as President  
16 of the Democratic Women's Club of Mecklenburg County in 1967, as Chair of the  
17 Mecklenburg County Democratic Party from 1970 to 1972, and as a Delegate at the  
18 Democratic National Convention in 1972; and

19 Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan served with honor and distinction as a  
20 member of the House of Representatives during the 1969, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, and  
21 1983 sessions of the General Assembly; and

22 Whereas, as a member of the General Assembly, Louise Smith Brennan  
23 advocated the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment and supported issues affecting  
24 women, including day care and domestic violence; and

25 Whereas, after leaving the General Assembly, Louise Smith Brennan served  
26 as an adjunct professor in the Political Science Department at the University of North  
27 Carolina at Charlotte; and

1           Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan was active in her community, serving as a  
2 member of the Board of Directors of the Heart Association of Mecklenburg County,  
3 Unit Chair of United Appeal (now the United Way), and President of Dilworth PTA;  
4 and

5           Whereas, in 1988, Louise Smith Brennan became the first female member of  
6 the Mecklenburg County Rotary Club; and

7           Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan was a faithful member of Caldwell  
8 Memorial Presbyterian Church, where she served as an Elder and Sunday School  
9 Teacher; and

10          Whereas, over the years, Louise Smith Brennan was recognized for her many  
11 good deeds, including being named Charlotte's Woman of the Year in 1982 and being  
12 inducted into the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Hall of Fame; and

13          Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan died on December 8, 2007, at the age of 85;  
14 and

15          Whereas, Louise Smith Brennan is survived by her children, Jane Sutton  
16 Rollins and Robert T. Sutton, Jr., and grandchildren, Brennan Coleman, Elizabeth  
17 Coleman, David Rollins, Jack Mitchell, and Robby Mitchell; Now, therefore,  
18 Be it res

19           **s/SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Louise Smith  
20 Brennan and expresses its appreciation for her life and public service.

21           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the  
22 family of Louise Smith Brennan for the loss of a beloved family member resolution ts/o  
23 the family of Louise Smith Brennan.

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