

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2171

Sponsors: Senator Dannelly.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

July 10, 2008

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF EDWARD M.
2 "ED" O'HERRON, JR., FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 Whereas, Edward M. "Ed" O'Herron, Jr., was born on November 6, 1915, in
4 Baltimore, Maryland, to Edward M. O'Herron and Sally E. O'Herron; and

5 Whereas, Ed O'Herron grew up in the City of Charlotte, where his father
6 expanded the family's drugstore business by opening the Eckerd's Cut Rate Medical
7 Store; and

8 Whereas, Ed O'Herron attended Culver Military Academy and the United
9 States Naval Academy and, in 1938, earned a bachelor's degree from the University of
10 North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

11 Whereas, after college, Ed O'Herron married Margaret Aston "Dosty"
12 Blackman and moved to Asheville, where he worked for the warehouse that served the
13 six Eckerd stores in North Carolina; and

14 Whereas, during World War II, Ed O'Herron proudly served his country as a
15 member of the United States Marine Corps, achieving the rank of captain and earning a
16 Silver Star at Iwo Jima for "heroism, leadership in battle and cool courage;" and

17 Whereas, after his military service, Ed O'Herron rejoined Eckerd Drugs of
18 North Carolina and later served the company as Treasurer in 1946, Vice-President and
19 Director in 1950, President in 1962, and Chair in 1965; and

20 Whereas, Ed O'Herron's leadership and dedication helped Eckerd Drugs grow
21 from six stores to 260 before the merger with the Jack Eckerd Corporation in 1977; and

22 Whereas, Ed O'Herron was inducted into the North Carolina Business Hall of
23 Fame in 2003; and

24 Whereas, Ed O'Herron served the people of North Carolina, representing
25 Mecklenburg County as a member of the House of Representatives for three terms
26 between 1951 and 1956; and

27 Whereas, during his tenure in the General Assembly, Ed O'Herron sponsored
28 the first legislation to establish the State's community college system; and

29 Whereas, Ed O'Herron served as a member of the Advisory Budget
30 Commission from 1965 to 1969 and ran for governor in 1976; and

1 Whereas, Ed O'Herron served on a number of professional boards, including
2 Piedmont Aviation, Wachovia Corporation, BellSouth, and Piedmont Natural Gas; and

3 Whereas, Ed O'Herron believed in community service and served on
4 numerous boards, including Chair of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Memorial Hospital for
5 26 years, Chair of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority, and Chair of the Billy
6 Graham Day School, and

7 Whereas, Ed O'Herron was active in the Christ Episcopal Church in
8 Charlotte, where he served as a Sunday schoolteacher; and

9 Whereas, Ed O'Herron died on July 26, 2006, at the age of 90; and

10 Whereas, Ed O'Herron is survived by three children, William P. O'Herron,
11 Patricia O'Herron Norman, and Kennedy C. O'Herron; nine grandchildren; two
12 step-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; Now, therefore,

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

14 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Edward M.
15 O'Herron, Jr., and expresses the appreciation of this State and its citizens for his
16 contributions to North Carolina.

17 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its sympathy to the family of
18 Edward M. O'Herron, Jr., for the loss of a beloved family member.

19 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
20 resolution to the family of Edward M. O'Herron, Jr.

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