

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 64**

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Sponsors: Representatives D. Ross and T. Moore (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.*

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Referred to:

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February 5, 2013

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE  
2 LEGISLATIVE BUILDING.

3 Whereas, the State Legislative Building was completed in January 1963, making  
4 2013 the 50th anniversary of the building's opening; and

5 Whereas, by the late 1950s, facilities in the State Capitol, which had been used for  
6 sessions of the General Assembly since 1840, were increasingly becoming insufficient to  
7 accommodate the members of the General Assembly and their staff; and

8 Whereas, in 1959, the General Assembly appropriated funds for a new building to  
9 accommodate the legislature, and enacted legislation establishing the State Legislative Building  
10 Commission (Commission); and

11 Whereas, the Commission consisted of the following members: Archie K. Davis and  
12 Robert F. Morgan (vice-chair), who were appointed by Lieutenant Governor Luther E.  
13 Barnhardt, President of the Senate; Byrd I. Satterfield and Thomas J. White (chair), who were  
14 appointed by Addison Hewlett, Speaker of the House of Representatives; and A. E. Finley,  
15 Edwin Gill, and Oliver R. Rowe, who were appointed by Governor Luther Hodges; and

16 Whereas, among its many duties, the Commission was charged with acquiring a site  
17 suitable for a State Legislative Building; employing architects to prepare the plans for the  
18 building; entering into contracts to purchase real property, materials, and furnishings related to  
19 the building; and providing general supervision of construction of the new building; and

20 Whereas, the Commission selected architect Edward Durell Stone of New York and  
21 associate architects John S. Holloway and Ralph B. Reeves, Jr., of Raleigh to design the new  
22 building; and

23 Whereas, Edward Durell Stone, an Arkansas native, is widely considered to have  
24 been one of the most prominent 20<sup>th</sup> century American architects, having designed numerous  
25 college, museum, and corporate buildings across the United States; and

26 Whereas, Edward Durell Stone was an internationally recognized advocate for  
27 modern design, having designed prominent public buildings in Canada, Mexico, Panama, India,  
28 Pakistan, Lebanon, Croatia, and Belgium; and

29 Whereas, in 1961, the General Assembly provided additional funding to furnish and  
30 equip the building, bringing the total appropriation for the new building to \$5.5 million; and

31 Whereas, the State Legislative Building rises from a broad 340-foot wide podium of  
32 North Carolina granite with a marble-faced building proper encompassed by a colonnade of  
33 square columns reaching from the podium to the main roof of the second floor; and

34 Whereas, the main entrance to the State Legislative Building has a 28-foot diameter  
35 terrazzo mosaic of the great seal of the State of North Carolina; and



1           Whereas, the State Legislative Building houses the chambers of the Senate and the  
2 House of Representatives, members' offices, Principal Clerks' offices, committee rooms, and  
3 spaces for other essential functions of the General Assembly; and

4           Whereas, North Carolina was the first state to construct a building to house the  
5 legislature; and

6           Whereas, the General Assembly convened its first session in the State Legislative  
7 Building on February 6, 1963; and

8           Whereas, the State Legislative Building is today considered to be one of Edward  
9 Durell Stone's most important works, along with such notable buildings as the Kennedy Center  
10 and the National Geographic Building in Washington, DC, and the Museum of Modern Art and  
11 the General Motors Building in New York City; and

12           Whereas, the State Legislative Building has been an important institution for the  
13 General Assembly and the citizens of this State for 50 years; Now, therefore,

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

15           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of the late Edward Durell  
16 Stone as well as the many others who helped to conceive, design, construct, and build the State  
17 Legislative Building.

18           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly expresses appreciation to the 1959 General  
19 Assembly for the actions it took to ensure that the General Assembly had the appropriate funds  
20 and resources to build the State Legislative Building, which has been a significant symbol of  
21 State government for the past 50 years.

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