

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2015

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1124

Sponsors: Representatives Daughtry, West, Stam, and Whitmire (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Calendar

May 11, 2016

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING OUR VETERANS BY EXPRESSING
2 APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR STATE AND NATION.

3 Whereas, throughout our country's history, generations of men and women have
4 answered the call to leave their families, their jobs, and put their futures and even their lives on the
5 line to valiantly defend our nation and its inalienable rights; and

6 Whereas, for many, that sacrifice has ended in permanent injury or death, yet their
7 spirit remains in the continued preservation of our freedoms and the promise of liberty; and

8 Whereas, the military has a prominent presence in North Carolina serving as the
9 location of five military bases, a military ocean terminal, and a U.S. Coast Guard base: Fort
10 Bragg; Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base; Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station and Naval Air
11 Depot; New River Marine Corps Air Station; Seymour Johnson Air Force Base; Sunny Point
12 Military Ocean Terminal; U.S. Coast Guard Base, Elizabeth City; accounting for over 116,000
13 active-duty personnel stationed in the State; and

14 Whereas, over 11,773 North Carolinians serve in the Air and Army National Guard and
15 11,562 North Carolinians serve in U.S. Army Reserve, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, U.S. Air Force
16 Reserve, and U.S. Navy Reserve; and

17 Whereas, nearly 775,000 veterans live in North Carolina, ranking the State eighth in
18 the nation for the number of veterans; and

19 Whereas, as of 2014, North Carolina had a female veteran population of over 84,070
20 ranking fifth in the nation; a military retiree population of more than 92,500 ranking sixth in the
21 nation; and a rural veteran population of over 137,350 ranking second in the nation; and

22 Whereas, the State of North Carolina is committed to the veterans in this State and
23 provides various services and resources, which are all accessible on a Web site maintained by the
24 North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs in the North Carolina Department of Military and
25 Veterans Affairs; and

26 Whereas, the Division of Veterans Affairs is working in partnership with other State
27 agencies to provide veterans a "one-stop-shop" experience for services, benefits, or support from
28 federal, State, and nonprofit programs; and

29 Whereas, the Division of Veterans Affairs is responsible for overseeing the State
30 Service Office, 22 Veterans Service Centers, four State Veterans Homes, and four State Veterans
31 Cemeteries; and

32 Whereas, the Division of Veterans Affairs also assists, trains, and accredits county
33 veterans service officers in order to create a coordinated network; and

34 Whereas, the North Carolina Veterans Council, Inc., has for over 25 years represented
35 the interests of all veterans before the North Carolina General Assembly; and



1 Whereas, the North Carolina Veterans Council, Inc., is composed of representatives of
2 the 11 active veterans organizations, including Military Officers Association of America
3 (MOAA), Fleet Reserve Association, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), American Veterans
4 (AMVETS), American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart,
5 Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Marine Corps League, Department of American EX-POW, and
6 the NC ELKS Association, as an ex officio member; and

7 Whereas, the U.S. Veterans Administration and Department of Defense spent a
8 combined \$7.3 billion in North Carolina on veterans, benefits programs, and military retiree
9 pensions during the 2013 fiscal year, including operating 27 VA medical sites throughout the
10 State; and

11 Whereas, we owe a debt of gratitude to our veterans and wish to express our
12 appreciation to all of our veterans for their selfless service to this State and the United States;
13 Now, therefore,

14 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

15 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives expresses its profound gratitude and
16 appreciation to all the men and women who served in our nation in the armed services, Reserves,
17 and National Guard.

18 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives wishes to honor the memory of all the
19 North Carolinians who gave their lives while serving our nation in the armed services.

20 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.