

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR30408-LG-176A (6/27)

Sponsors: Representative Ross.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ALAN
2 PRESTON NEELY, MINISTER AND COMMUNITY LEADER.

3 Whereas, Alan Preston Neely, the son of Arthur Preston Neely and Effie
4 Sargent Neely, was born November 3, 1928, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was raised in
5 Fort Worth, Texas; and

6 Whereas, Alan Neely earned a degree in English from Baylor University in
7 Waco, Texas; a doctorate degree in Philosophy of Religion from the Southwestern
8 Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; and a doctorate degree in Latin
9 American Studies from American University in Washington, D.C.; and

10 Whereas, early in his career, Alan Neely served as a pastor in churches in
11 Texas, Virginia, and Colorado; and

12 Whereas, in 1963, Alan Neely and his wife, Virginia, were appointed
13 missionary teachers by the Southern Baptist Convention to the International Baptist
14 Theological Seminary in Cali, Colombia, South America; and

15 Whereas, during his stay in South America, Alan Neely interacted with
16 people of diverse faiths and cultures and developed a passion for bringing together
17 people of different religions, which he continued throughout his life; and

18 Whereas, Alan Neely served as a professor of missions at the Southeastern
19 Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, from 1976 to 1988; and

20 Whereas, Alan Neely taught ecumenics and missions at the Princeton
21 Theological Seminary from 1988 until his retirement in 1996; and

22 Whereas, upon his retirement, Alan Neely moved to the City of Raleigh,
23 where he became active in a number of community organizations and found time to
24 write and teach; and

25 Whereas, Alan Neely was dedicated to the Baptist tradition and was one of
26 the founders of the Alliance of Baptists, a national organization of progressive Baptists;
27 and

1 Whereas, Alan Neely served as President of the Interfaith Alliance of Wake
2 County for five years and was later named president emeritus; and

3 Whereas, Alan Neely was a founding board member of the North Carolina
4 Martin Luther King Resource Center and was later named member emeritus; and

5 Whereas, Alan Neely was active in the Pullen Memorial Baptist Church,
6 serving as a Sunday school teacher; and

7 Whereas, Alan Neely was well respected by his peers and members of his
8 community; and

9 Whereas, Alan Neely died on May 14, 2003; and

10 Whereas, Alan Neely is survived by his wife Virginia Garrett Neely; two
11 daughters, Jennifer Neely Wilkins and Elizabeth Neely Forsythe; a son, Roger Alan
12 Neely; and four grandchildren; Now, therefore,

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

14 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Alan
15 Preston Neely and expresses the appreciation of this State and its citizens for the service
16 he rendered.

17 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly expresses its deepest sympathy to the
18 family and friends of Alan Preston Neely 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 Alan Preston Neely.

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