

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

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2050**

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Sponsors: Representatives Ray, Saunders, Lucas, Johnson (Primary Sponsors); Alexander, Almond, Barnhart, Bell, Brown, Brubaker, Carney, Cleveland, Cole, Cunningham, England, Farmer-Butterfield, Folwell, Frye, Gibson, Gillespie, Goforth, Goodwin, Gulley, Haire, Hall, J. Harrell, Hill, Hilton, Justus, Killian, Lewis, Luebke, McComas, Moore, Owens, Parmon, Pate, Rapp, Samuelson, Setzer, Spear, Steen, Stiller, Sutton, Tarleton, Thomas, Tillis, Tolson, Walker, E. Warren, R. Warren, West, Wiley, Williams, and Wray.

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

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May 14, 2007

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING 2006 NASCAR NEXTEL CUP CHAMPION  
2 JIMMIE JOHNSON.

3           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson began racing on 50cc motorcycles at the age of  
4 five and within a few years had moved to the 60cc motorcycle class winning his first  
5 championship at the age of eight; and

6           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson's racing career accelerated and he moved on to the  
7 Mickey Thompson Entertainment Group Stadium Racing Series and later advanced to  
8 off-road racing; and

9           Whereas, in 1998, Jimmie Johnson began driving in the American Speed  
10 Association series. ASA racing was his first taste in pavement racing and he has never  
11 looked back. He was named ASA Pat Schauer Rookie of the Year; and

12           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson raced in the NASCAR Busch series beginning in  
13 1998 and posted his first Busch series win in 2001 at the inaugural race at Chicagoland  
14 Speedway; and

15           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson began his career as a driver in the NASCAR  
16 Nextel Cup series in 2002 driving the Lowe's #48 Chevrolet for Hendrick Motorsports.  
17 His #48 Chevrolet has been sponsored by Lowe's Home Improvement Company, one of  
18 North Carolina's true business success stories; and

19           Whereas, in 2002, Jimmie Johnson became the first rookie in NASCAR  
20 Nextel Cup racing to lead in the point standings. He notched three victories in his rookie  
21 campaign, winning twice at Dover International Speedway and once at California  
22 Speedway. He is the first rookie in series history to sweep both races at a track; and

1           Whereas, in 2003, Jimmie Johnson finished second in the Nextel Cup points  
2 standing with three wins, 14 top fives, 20 top tens, and two poles. His wins include  
3 sweeping the May races at Lowe's Motor Speedway capturing victories in the All-Star  
4 Race and the Coca-Cola 600 and two wins at New Hampshire International Raceway;  
5 and

6           Whereas, in 2004, Jimmie Johnson was able to complete the season with a  
7 second-place finish in the inaugural Chase for the NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship,  
8 had the most number of wins of any driver with eight victories, claimed 20 top-five and  
9 23 top-10 finishes, and led 24 races for a total of 1,312 points; and

10           Whereas, during the 2005 season, Jimmie Johnson's victories included a fifth-  
11 place finish in the Chase for the NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship, the lead in point  
12 standings for 17 weeks, first place finishes at Las Vegas Motor Speedway and Dover  
13 International Speedway, won both points events at Lowe's Motor Speedway, and  
14 became the only driver ranked in the top 10 in point standings after every race during  
15 the season; and

16           Whereas, in 2006, Jimmie Johnson captured his first NASCAR Nextel Cup  
17 Championship at Homestead-Miami Speedway and became the only driver in the  
18 modern era to win at least three races in each of his first five full-time seasons; and

19           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson's success placed him among four other drivers in  
20 NASCAR's history to have won the Daytona 500 and the NASCAR Nextel Cup  
21 Championship in the same season and the title of Driver of the Year; and

22           Whereas, in 193 NASCAR Nextel Cup races, Jimmie Johnson had 27 wins,  
23 nine poles, and 73 top-five and 117 top-10 finishes; and

24           Whereas, during the current 2007 season, Jimmie Johnson has posted four  
25 wins, seven top-five finishes, and seven top-10 finishes; and

26           Whereas, when he is not racing, Jimmie Johnson hosts a weekly radio show  
27 on XM Radio and is a frequent guest on late night television shows and other media  
28 outlets; and

29           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson has also taken the time to give back to the  
30 community, founding the Jimmie Johnson Foundation with his wife Chandra Johnson in  
31 February 2006 to assist children, families, and communities in need; and

32           Whereas, in March of 2006 the Jimmie Johnson Foundation established  
33 Victory Lanes, a bowling alley for campers with chronic and life-threatening illnesses at  
34 Kyle and Pattie Petty's Victory Junction Gang Camp in Randleman, North Carolina; and

35           Whereas, Jimmie Johnson's achievements as a member of the Hendrick  
36 Motorsports team, is a fitting memorial to Hendrick family members and others who  
37 lost their lives during a plane crash in October of 2004 traveling to Martinsville  
38 Speedway in Virginia; and

39           Whereas, those lost in the plane crash were Ricky Hendrick, John Hendrick,  
40 Kimberly Hendrick, Jennifer Hendrick, Joe Jackson, Jeff Turner, Randy Dorton, Scott  
41 Latham, Richard Tracy, and Elizabeth Morrison; Now, therefore,  
42 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

43           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly congratulates Jimmie Johnson on his  
44 outstanding achievements as the NASCAR Nextel Cup Champion and expresses its

1 appreciation for the contributions he has made in the lives of the children who attend the  
2 Victory Junction Gang Camp and the lives of needy families and children.

3           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly honors the memory of those who lost  
4 their lives in the Hendrick plane crash on October 24, 2004, on the way to a NASCAR  
5 race at the Martinsville Speedway in Virginia.

6           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
7 resolution to Jimmie Johnson.

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