

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1021

Sponsors: Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House (Primary Sponsor).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to:

July 17, 2013

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA'S 2013 ALL-AMERICA
2 CITY AWARD HONOREES.

3 Whereas, the All-America City Award program was founded in 1949 to recognize
4 cities for their civic achievements; and

5 Whereas, to be named an All-America City, a community must demonstrate
6 innovation, inclusiveness, civic engagement, and cross-sector collaboration by describing
7 successful efforts to address pressing local challenges and must briefly tell its community's
8 story, listing two of their most pressing challenges and three outstanding community projects;
9 and

10 Whereas, on June 16, 2013, the Towns of Dunn, Garner, and Thomasville were
11 named three of the 10 communities across the country to win the All-America City Award,
12 which is often called the Nobel Prize of civic accomplishment; and

13 Whereas, the Town of Dunn, located in Harnett County, was incorporated by the
14 General Assembly in 1887 and named for Bennett R. Dunn, construction engineer for the
15 Atlantic Coast Line Railroad; and

16 Whereas, Dunn's outstanding community projects for the All-America City Award
17 included the involvement of the Town's civic leaders in the planning, negotiation, and financial
18 investment in the development of the new 50-bed Central Harnett Hospital; the revitalization of
19 the Town's City Center, which includes the burial of power lines and telecommunication
20 cables, renovation of the aged water and sewer system, replacement of the pavement,
21 incorporation of attractive brick and cement features, and grants to downtown businesses to
22 update their facades; and the development of the Dunn Police Athletic/Activities League
23 (PAL), which annually offers various programs from athletics to SAT/ACT test preparation to
24 up to 300 young people ages six to 18 and offers teens the opportunity to join the PAL Youth
25 Leadership Council, which promotes volunteerism, public service, and an understanding of
26 civics and government; and

27 Whereas, the Town of Garner, located in Wake County, was reincorporated by the
28 General Assembly in 1905 and named for H. C. Garner, the Town's founder; and

29 Whereas, Garner's three best projects for the All-America City Award included the
30 new \$500,000 Garner Veterans Memorial at Lake Benson Park that features pillars with the
31 names of 67 Garner-area veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country
32 and the artwork of world-famous Raleigh-based sculptor Thomas Sayre; the First Baptist
33 Church's Community of Hope Ministries which collaborates with six Garner-area elementary
34 schools to identify at-risk students to provide support for these students and their families
35 through a number of programs, including an after-school program and food pantry; and the



1 Garner Performing Arts Center, which is housed in a salvaged school and is the location for a
2 community theater group, a summer theater camp program that reaches 120 campers annually,
3 and other cultural programs such as the Broadway Voices series, a public-private partnership
4 that brings some of Broadway's biggest shows to the local stage; and

5 Whereas, the Town of Thomasville, located in Davidson County, was incorporated
6 by the General Assembly in 1857 and named for John Warwick Thomas, the Town's founder;
7 and

8 Whereas, in a video presentation, Thomasville's local community leaders described
9 their three projects as follows: the Thomasville Memorial Day events that celebrate veterans
10 and military families, which have included memorabilia displays around the community of the
11 veterans who gave their lives while protecting the freedoms of others; Project Divine
12 Interruption, a program whereby individuals and area businesses raised funds to provide
13 hygiene kits, clothing, meals, and other essentials items to assist area homeless students to
14 strengthen their self-respect and keep them on an equal playing field; and Children at Play, an
15 initiative to address childhood obesity, which was led by the Rotary and members of the
16 business community, foundations, and private citizens to raise \$300,000 to reequip seven
17 public parks throughout the community with modern, safe, and inviting playgrounds, including
18 a playground accessible to those with physical disabilities; Now, therefore,

19 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

20 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives recognizes the Towns of Dunn,
21 Garner, and Thomasville on each being named a 2013 All-America City and applauds the
22 citizens of these Towns for their efforts in helping to make their Towns worthy of receiving this
23 prestigious award.

24 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of the founders
25 and early leaders of the Towns of Dunn, Garner, and Thomasville for their contributions to
26 these Towns.

27 **SECTION 3.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
28 to the Mayors of the Towns of Dunn, Garner, and Thomasville.

29 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.