

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1260

Sponsors: Representative Dobson (Primary Sponsor).
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

Referred to:

June 10, 2014

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN
2 WHO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC AND OUR NATURAL
3 RESOURCES; HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE SUSTAINED INJURIES; AND
4 HONORING THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE
5 LINE OF DUTY.

6 Whereas, on March 12, 2014, United States Forest Service Officer Jason Crisp was
7 killed in the line of duty in Burke County, along with his service dog, Maros; and

8 Whereas, thousands of men and women like Officer Crisp proudly perform their
9 duties as marine patrol officers, wildlife enforcement officers, forest rangers, and park rangers
10 throughout the United States and the State of North Carolina; and

11 Whereas, Section 5 of Article XIV of the North Carolina Constitution declares it to
12 be the policy of this State to conserve and protect its lands and waters for the benefit of all its
13 citizenry; and

14 Whereas, Section 5 of Article XIV of the North Carolina Constitution also declares
15 it to be the proper function of the State to preserve as a part of the common heritage of this
16 State its forests, wetlands, estuaries, beaches, historical sites, open lands, and places of beauty;
17 and

18 Whereas, G.S. 113-44.8 provides that the State of North Carolina offers unique
19 archaeological, geological, biological, scenic, and recreational resources, and finds that these
20 resources are part of the heritage of the people of this State and should be preserved and
21 managed by the people for their use and for the use of their visitors and descendants; and

22 Whereas, the officers of the North Carolina Marine Patrol, Wildlife Enforcement
23 Officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission, and Rangers of the State Parks System and the
24 State's Forest Service are dedicated public servants and work tirelessly to uphold these
25 provisions of the State's Constitution and General Statutes, fulfill their duties to preserve our
26 State's spectacular natural resources, and assure the safety of the State's citizenry in enjoying
27 these resources; and

28 Whereas, the origins of the North Carolina Marine Patrol may be traced to as early
29 as 1822, serving to protect the State's extensive marine and estuarine resources; and

30 Whereas, the North Carolina Marine Patrol has responsibility for ensuring
31 sustainable marine and estuarine fisheries for the benefit of the people of North Carolina and
32 has jurisdiction over all coastal waters, which includes monitoring 2.5 million acres of water
33 and 4,000 miles of coastline; and

34 Whereas, many members of the Marine Patrol have been injured in the line of duty,
35 and one member of the Marine Patrol has died in the line of duty; and



1 Whereas, the origins of the Wildlife Resource Commission may be traced to 1947,
2 when the General Assembly established the agency to conserve and sustain the State's wildlife
3 and inland fish resources; and

4 Whereas, the Wildlife Enforcement Officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission
5 have responsibility for enforcement of the inland fishing, hunting, trapping, and boating laws
6 throughout the State; and

7 Whereas, many Wildlife Enforcement Officers have been injured in the line of duty,
8 and seven Wildlife Enforcement Officers have lost their lives in the line of duty; and

9 Whereas, the origins of the State Parks System may be traced to as early as 1891,
10 when the North Carolina Geological Survey was established to protect the State's natural
11 diversity and to encourage opportunities that promote stewardship of the State's natural
12 heritage; and

13 Whereas, the Rangers of the State Parks System have responsibility for management
14 of more than 217,000 acres included within the State Parks System and protection of the many
15 millions of visitors to sites within the System each year; and

16 Whereas, many Rangers of the State Parks System have been injured in the line of
17 duty; and

18 Whereas, the origins of the State's Forest Service may be traced to as early as 1891,
19 when the North Carolina Geological Survey was established to protect the State's natural
20 diversity and to encourage opportunities that promote stewardship of the State's natural heritage
21 and the first State employee was appointed to carry out forestry work; and

22 Whereas, the Rangers of the State Forest Service have responsibility for
23 management of the rich and diverse forest resources within North Carolina, which enrich the
24 lives of all North Carolinians and provide us with clean water and air, wildlife, recreation, and
25 forest products; and

26 Whereas, many Rangers of the State Forest Service have been injured in the line of
27 duty, and 26 Rangers of the State Forest Service have lost their lives in the line of duty since
28 1950; and

29 Whereas, it is fitting to honor and commend the exemplary group of men and
30 women who have served and continue to serve our State and nation and routinely endure
31 dangerous and difficult conditions in the performance of their duties and those that have been
32 injured and lost in the line of duty through service to their State and nation; Now, therefore,
33 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

34 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives expresses its profound gratitude and
35 appreciation to the North Carolina Marine Patrol officers, Wildlife Enforcement Officers, and
36 Rangers of the North Carolina Forest Service and North Carolina State Parks System for their
37 extraordinary service to the State.

38 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives wishes to honor those who have
39 sustained injury while performing their duties and wishes to honor the memory of all members
40 of the North Carolina Marine Patrol, Wildlife Enforcement Officers, and Rangers of the North
41 Carolina Forest Service and North Carolina State Parks System who lost their lives while
42 performing their duties.

43 **SECTION 3.** The House of Representatives extends its deepest sympathy to the
44 families of the individuals referenced above who sacrificed their lives to help preserve and
45 protect North Carolina's incomparable natural resources, from the mountains to the coast, and
46 ensure that they may be safely enjoyed by the State's citizenry each year. The people of the
47 State of North Carolina owe a debt to these dedicated public servants and solemnly pledge that
48 they shall never be forgotten.

49 **SECTION 4.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of United States
50 Forest Service Officer Jason Crisp and extends its deepest sympathy to his family.

1 **SECTION 5.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
2 to the North Carolina Marine Patrol, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, North
3 Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation, and to the North Carolina Forest Service.

4 **SECTION 6.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.