

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013**

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION 1227  
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/19/14**

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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May 28, 2014

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION HONORING THE EIGHTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
2 STATE HIGHWAY PATROL AND PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO HAVE DIED  
3 IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

4       Whereas, between 1921 and 1929, the number of registered vehicles in North  
5 Carolina increased from 150,558 to 503,590; and

6       Whereas, on March 18, 1929, the General Assembly enacted legislation to establish  
7 a State Highway Patrol to patrol the State's highways, enforce the motor vehicle laws, and  
8 assist the motoring public; and

9       Whereas, the State's first Highway Patrol training school began on May 20, 1929, at  
10 Camp Glenn near Morehead City; and

11       Whereas, on July 1, 1929, 37 of the 42 participants that completed the training were  
12 sworn in as members of the State Highway Patrol; and

13       Whereas, initially, Patrol officers were issued Harley Davidson motorcycles,  
14 lieutenants were issued Model A Ford Coupes, and the Patrol commander was issued a Buick  
15 automobile; and

16       Whereas, in 1937, all Patrol officers were assigned individual vehicles, and the  
17 legislature authorized a statewide radio system for the purpose of coordinating operations and  
18 improving the efficiency of the Highway Patrol; and

19       Whereas, today, the State Highway Patrol consists of more than 1,600 officers and  
20 over 400 civilians; and

21       Whereas, for 85 years, the State Highway Patrol has not only stayed true to its  
22 mission of enforcing the State's motor vehicle laws and reducing the number of collisions on  
23 North Carolina's 78,000 miles of highways but also handled other duties such as guiding traffic  
24 during severe weather conditions and rerouting traffic around hazardous chemical spills; and

25       Whereas, the officers of the State Highway Patrol have dutifully served the citizens  
26 of this State despite the danger Patrol officers often encounter; and

27       Whereas, more than 60 officers have lost their lives in the line of duty, including  
28 George I. Thompson, the first State Highway Patrol officer to be killed in the line of duty.  
29 Officer Thompson was killed on July 2, 1929, while riding a motorcycle on the way to his  
30 assigned duty station; and

31       Whereas, on the 85th anniversary of the State Highway Patrol, it is important to  
32 recognize and acknowledge this organization for its invaluable service to the citizens of North  
33 Carolina; Now, therefore,

34 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

35       **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives honors the memory of the members of  
36 the State Highway Patrol who have lost their lives in the line of duty.



- 1                   **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives congratulates the State Highway Patrol  
2 on its 85th anniversary and acknowledges those who have served this organization for their  
3 dedication and commitment in making North Carolina's highways safe.  
4                   **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.