

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 866

Sponsors: Senators Raynor and Tally.

Referred to:

April 11, 1989

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF OTTIS
2 FRANKLIN JONES, FORMER SHERIFF OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

3 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was born on December 29, 1931, in the town
4 of Erwin; and

5 Whereas, Ottis Franklin was raised in Erwin and attended Erwin High
6 School; and

7 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones moved to Cumberland County and joined the
8 sheriff's department in September 1953; and

9 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was appointed sheriff in 1972; and

10 Whereas, in 1974, Ottis Franklin Jones ran for sheriff and was elected to a
11 four-year term of office by defeating his opponents by a very comfortable margin; and

12 Whereas, in 1978, Ottis Franklin Jones was reelected sheriff by carrying
13 every single precinct in the county and defeating four opponents by taking sixty-eight
14 percent (68%) of the vote; and

15 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was reelected as sheriff in 1982 and 1986 and
16 was unopposed in both elections; and

17 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was instrumental in working towards the North
18 Carolina Sheriffs' Association in becoming more involved in statewide legislation that
19 provided more and better quality law enforcement for the citizens of the 100 counties
20 throughout the State in the 1970's; and

21 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones served the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association
22 in many capacities, including Second Vice-President from 1979 to 1980; First Vice-

1 President from 1980 to 1981; President from the 1981 to 1982; Chairman from 1982 to
2 1983; and member of the Executive Committee from 1983 to 1987; and

3 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones promoted the formation of the North Carolina
4 Sheriffs' Training and Standards Commission, which allowed the sheriffs of North
5 Carolina to devise training courses which are geared directly to the type of law
6 enforcement duties performed by deputies, and was elected chairman in 1984 and
7 served in that position until 1987; and

8 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was the first sheriff in North Carolina to
9 establish a platoon of motorcycles for use in providing escorts, special assignments,
10 traffic control, and various other related duties; and

11 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was the first sheriff to recognize the need for
12 and to hire a full-time Chaplain; and

13 Whereas, the North Carolina Sheriffs' Chaplains Association was formed in
14 1985; and

15 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones established a gymnasium inside the Law
16 Enforcement Center that is accessible to the officers on a 24 hours a day, seven days as
17 week basis; and

18 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was known throughout the State for his
19 feelings on the constitutional authority of the "Office of Sheriff" and was outspoken on
20 his position; and

21 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones felt that the "Sheriff" was the office through
22 which the people exercise their right to decide who should be the chief law enforcement
23 officer of their county and he tried very hard to uphold the confidence and
24 responsibilities which the people of Cumberland County entrusted to him; and

25 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was a member of the Lebanon Baptist Church;
26 and

27 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones was devoted to his community and served as a
28 member of many organizations, including the Lions Club, the Optimist Club,
29 Fayetteville State University's Center for Continuing Education, the Executive Board of
30 Directors of the Falcon Children's Home, the Advisory Council for Vocational
31 Education for the Cumberland County School System, Mason with the Creasey Proctor
32 Lodge, the Shriners, the Region M Criminal Justice Training Council, and the North
33 Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Systems Council; and

34 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones died on November 30, 1987, as is survived by
35 his wife, Ila; his son, Frankie and his daughter, Donna; and

36 Whereas, Ottis Franklin Jones will be remembered by all who knew him as a
37 man devoted to his family, his profession, and his community;

38 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

39 Section 1. The General Assembly wishes to honor the life and memory of
40 Ottis Franklin Jones and expresses the deep gratitude and appreciation of this State and
41 its citizens, particularly those of Cumberland County for his life and service to law
42 enforcement.

43 Sec. 2. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution
44 to the family of Ottis Franklin Jones.

1 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.