

RESOLUTION

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTION FOR ROBERT GLEN "JUNIOR" JOHNSON, JR.

WHEREAS, NASCAR racing legend Robert Glen "Junior" Johnson, Jr. is a resident of Wilkes County who honed his early driving skills on the back roads of rural North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson's racing career spanned six decades, from 1948 to 1995, as a driver and race car team owner; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson was instrumental in bringing together R.J. Reynolds and NASCAR to create the Winston Cup Series and thereby helping elevate NASCAR to the largest sport in the nation; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson won more than 50 NASCAR races and as a car owner/team owner won five Winston Cup Championships; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson was a genius in building automobile motors with high horsepower who advised engineers from Detroit, Michigan representing virtually every automobile manufacturer in the United States on building both cars and engines; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson trained many drivers, crew chiefs and mechanics; and

WHEREAS, "Junior" Johnson has contributed to churches, schools, local organizations and nearly every charitable and civic organization in Wilkes County; and

WHEREAS, the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners and the Wilkesboro Town Board of Commissioners supported the naming of a highway for "Junior" Johnson.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation names the section of U.S. 421 now under construction from the Yadkin-Wilkes County line to the Windy Gap Exit in Wilkes County the *Junior Johnson Highway* for his contributions to the sport of automobile racing and to his community and state.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the twelfth day of April 2001, by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.

Secretary of Transportation