

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1083

Sponsors: Representatives Hasty; and Bowman.

Referred to: Rules, Appointments and Calendar.

April 24, 1991

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
3 REVITALIZATION OF DOWNTOWNS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, the beginnings of most communities in North Carolina are in the
5 downtown areas of the State; and

6 Whereas, there is a growing need and desire to preserve the heritage,
7 economies, and uniqueness of the State's downtowns; and

8 Whereas, in recent years, the rapid and often uncoordinated growth in North
9 Carolina's urban centers has led to the destruction of many of the State's cultural
10 resources and historic landscapes; and

11 Whereas, the need for greater efforts to protect historic properties is now
12 particularly acute as North Carolina continues to lose hundreds of architecturally and
13 historically significant buildings and areas which are priceless and irreplaceable assets
14 of the State; and

15 Whereas, the preservation of beautiful historic centers and neighborhoods is
16 necessary if the citizens of this State are to maintain the high quality of life and
17 economic growth that are so important in attracting new businesses and industries to
18 the State; and

19 Whereas, the North Carolina Main Street Program has a proven successful
20 10-year track record of job creation and economic growth in the State's Main Street
21 Communities; and

22 Whereas, the North Carolina Downtown Development Association and many
23 other individual community programs have met with economic successes; and

1 Whereas, there is no central clearinghouse for what is happening in
2 downtowns in North Carolina, as well as, in any other states; and

3 Whereas, there is a need to be more proactive to the legacy of the past and
4 more reactive to the changing needs and to formulate, as necessary, those programs that
5 will fairly aid in preserving, protecting, and promoting the visibility of these core areas
6 that they may make economic contributions to their communities for generations to
7 come;

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

9 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is authorized to study
10 economic development and revitalization of downtowns in North Carolina. The
11 Legislative Research Commission may study the following:

- 12 (1) What impact the relocation and housing of governmental services have
13 on downtown revitalization efforts;
- 14 (2) What programs could be used for the more effective tracking of
15 downtown economic conditions;
- 16 (3) What impact existing State laws, regulations, policies, and codes have
17 in effecting economic growth and revitalization;
- 18 (4) Whether the laws addressing local government's positions and
19 authority need to be expanded or clarified;
- 20 (5) What impact historic preservation and restoration projects have on the
21 economic growth and revitalization of downtowns;
- 22 (6) What programs are currently being operated on the local and State
23 levels to promote and assist economic development and revitalization
24 in downtowns, how effective these programs are, and whether changes
25 are necessary to improve or coordinate these programs;
- 26 (7) What type and degree of incentive programs would be effective or
27 efficient in encouraging economic growth and revitalization in
28 downtowns;
- 29 (8) The future outlook and potential for downtowns; and
- 30 (9) Any other issues relating to the economic development and
31 revitalization of downtowns in this State.

32 Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission may obtain the assistance and
33 support of North Carolina Downtown Development Association, the North Carolina
34 Main Street Center, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation North
35 Carolina, Inc., State Historic Preservation offices, the Institute of Government, the
36 Attorney General, the National Main Street Center, and any other recognized experts in
37 this field as it deems appropriate in conducting the study authorized by this resolution.

38 Sec. 3. The Legislative Research Commission may make an interim report to
39 the 1992 General Assembly, and make a final report of its findings and
40 recommendations to the 1993 General Assembly.

41 Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.