

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 1756*

Short Title: Civil War Commission/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Baddour, Wainwright, Rogers, Russell, Hensley; Braswell, Gottovi, Jarrell, Luebke, Moore, and Sexton.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 26, 1994

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CIVIL WAR CORRIDOR COMMISSION AND TO
3 APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE COMMISSION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Article 2 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
6 adding a new Part to read:

7 **"PART 30. CIVIL WAR CORRIDOR COMMISSION.**

8 **"§ 143B-134. Civil War Corridor Commission – powers and duties.**

9 (a) There is created within the Department of Cultural Resources the Civil War
10 Corridor Commission.

11 (b) The purpose of the Civil War Corridor Commission is to encourage the
12 restoration, preservation, and enhancement of sites related to the American Civil War
13 that are located along, in, and near the U.S. Highway 70 corridor running from Durham
14 County to Carteret County, and including the seven counties of Durham, Wake,
15 Johnston, Wayne, Lenoir, Craven, and Carteret.

16 (c) The initial objectives of the Commission are (i) to bring about the
17 enhancement of existing State Historic Sites at the Bennett Place in Durham County, at
18 Bentonville Battleground in Johnston County, and at the Ram Neuse in Lenoir County;
19 (ii) to enhance the State Park at Fort Macon; and (iii) to work to create three new
20 historic attractions at the battlefields of Goldsborough Bridge in Wayne County, Wyse
21 Fork in Lenoir County, and New Bern in Craven County.

22 (d) In order to accomplish its purposes the Commission has the following powers
23 and duties:

- 1 (1) To encourage the county governments or their agencies, private groups
2 or private individuals in Wayne, Lenoir, and Craven Counties, to
3 acquire significant acreage on the battlefields of Goldsborough Bridge,
4 Wyse Fork, and New Bern to form the basis for the establishment of
5 historic attractions at these three locations.
- 6 (2) To cooperate with and encourage the efforts of the Civil War Corridor
7 Committee of the Eastern North Carolina Chamber of Commerce in its
8 efforts to acquire funding from the private sector to provide these new
9 attractions with visitor centers and to improve facilities at the existing
10 sites of Bennett Place, Bentonville, and Fort Macon.
- 11 (3) To solicit and accept gifts, grants, and other assistance for the
12 furtherance of its purposes and the exercise of its powers.
- 13 (4) To recommend to the Department of Cultural Resources the inclusion
14 of additional sites along or adjacent to the corridor upon appropriate
15 application by local sponsors, the manner and form of which shall be
16 determined by the Commission.
- 17 (5) To adopt and enforce such bylaws, rules, regulations, and guidelines
18 that the Commission deems to be reasonably necessary in order to
19 carry out its powers and duties.

20 **"§ 143B-135. Civil War Corridor Commission – members; terms; vacancies;**
21 **expenses.**

22 (a) The Commission shall consist of 25 voting members as follows:

- 23 (1) Twelve members to be appointed by the Governor, seven of whom
24 shall be residents of the seven counties along the corridor as described
25 in G.S. 143B-134(b);
- 26 (2) One member to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives upon the recommendation of the House Cochair of the
28 Eastern Delegation of the General Assembly;
- 29 (3) One member to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
30 Senate upon the recommendation of the Senate Cochair of the Eastern
31 Delegation of the General Assembly;
- 32 (4) One member to be appointed by the Secretary of Cultural Resources;
- 33 (5) One member to be appointed by the Secretary of Environment, Health,
34 and Natural Resources;
- 35 (6) One member to be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce;
- 36 (7) Seven voting ex officio members who shall be the Chairs of the
37 County Commissioners of the following seven counties or their
38 designees – Durham, Wake, Johnston, Wayne, Lenoir, Craven, and
39 Carteret;
- 40 (8) One voting ex officio member who shall be the Secretary of the
41 Eastern North Carolina Chamber of Commerce or the Secretary's
42 designee.

43 (b) Commission members shall serve four-year terms, and members may be
44 reappointed to a maximum of two additional terms. The Governor shall appoint a

1 chairman from among the members of the Commission, who shall not serve more than
2 two successive two-year terms as chairman. Any appointment to fill a vacancy on the
3 Commission created by the resignation, dismissal, death, or disability of a member shall
4 be made by the Commission and shall be for the balance of the unexpired term. The
5 members of the Commission shall receive per diem and necessary travel and subsistence
6 expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5.

7 A majority of the commission members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of
8 forming its organization, but thereafter the Commission may provide its requirements
9 for a quorum in its bylaws.

10 The Commission shall submit a periodic report to the Secretary of Cultural
11 Resources, the Governor, and the General Assembly."

12 Sec. 2. The Department of Cultural Resources, the Department of
13 Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, and the Department of Commerce shall
14 develop a plan and budget for coordination of the operation and promotion of the sites
15 under their respective jurisdictions along the Civil War Corridor described in G.S.
16 143B-134(b), as enacted in Section 1 of this act, for presentation to the Commission.

17 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
18 Cultural Resources the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the 1994-95
19 fiscal year to implement the provisions of this act.

20 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.