

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE BILL 1601

Short Title: Rural Life Museum Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Goforth, Fisher, and Sherrill (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 5, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO RENOVATE THE RURAL LIFE
2 MUSEUM ON THE CAMPUS OF MARS HILL COLLEGE.
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4 Whereas, the Rural Life Museum is located on the campus of Mars Hill
5 College in Madison County; and

6 Whereas, the Museum's resources, collections, and programs are available to
7 Mars Hill students and the community through tours, workshops, lectures, and
8 internships; and

9 Whereas, the Museum facilitates the collection, preservation, exhibition, and
10 interpretation of rural life artifacts relevant to the history and culture of the southern
11 Appalachian region; and

12 Whereas, through its exhibits and educational programs, the Museum assists
13 patrons in understanding rural heritage; and

14 Whereas, for 25 years, the Rural Life Museum has been a destination for area
15 4th and 8th grade classes to learn about mountain life for their North Carolina history
16 course requirements; and

17 Whereas, during the past year, the Museum provided students with
18 programming geared to specific topics, such as mountain musical traditions, slavery and
19 African-American traditions in western North Carolina, Cherokee presence in central
20 western North Carolina, southern Appalachian identity, pre-industrial agriculture
21 practices of the region and clogging; Now, therefore,
22 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

23 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Mars Hill
24 College the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal
25 year to renovate the Rural Life Museum, an important resource for the college and the
26 citizens of western North Carolina.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.