

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 394
Mar 19, 2019
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10185-LG-66

Short Title: Official State Cookie and Ship. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hardister, Grange, Lambeth, and Clemmons (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT ADOPTING THE MORAVIAN COOKIE AS THE OFFICIAL STATE COOKIE
3 AND THE USS NORTH CAROLINA AS THE OFFICIAL STATE SHIP.

4 Whereas, during the 18th century, settlers from the European kingdom of Moravia
5 travelled to America and founded the town of Salem (now Winston-Salem) in North Carolina in
6 1766; and

7 Whereas, when the Moravians settled in North Carolina, they brought with them a
8 spice cookie similar to the German Lebkuchen cookie; and

9 Whereas, these thin spice cookies are known as Moravian cookies and made of
10 ingredients such as molasses, allspice, and ginger; and

11 Whereas, the Moravian cookie is one of the most popular cookies in North Carolina;
12 and

13 Whereas, Moravian cookies have been made and sold in Winston-Salem since the
14 1950s and millions of pounds of cookies are baked, packaged, and distributed worldwide
15 annually; and

16 Whereas, sales of Moravian cookies promote tourism in the State and contribute to
17 the State's economy; and

18 Whereas, it is fitting to recognize the positive impact the Moravians have had on the
19 State's culture by adopting the Moravian cookie as the official cookie of the State of North
20 Carolina; and

21 Whereas, the USS North Carolina became the first of 10 fast battleships to join the
22 American fleet during World War II; and

23 Whereas, the USS North Carolina was commissioned on April 9, 1941, and was
24 considered the world's greatest sea weapon; and

25 Whereas, during the war, the crew of the USS North Carolina consisted of 144
26 commissioned officers and 2,195 enlisted men, including about 100 Marines; and

27 Whereas, the USS North Carolina participated in every major naval offensive in the
28 Pacific area of operations and earned 15 battle stars; and

29 Whereas, the USS North Carolina served as a training vessel for midshipmen before
30 being decommissioned on June 27, 1947; and

31 Whereas, in 1958, citizens of North Carolina began a statewide campaign known as
32 Save Our Ship (SOS) to save the ship from being scrapped; and

33 Whereas, the USS North Carolina was moored in Wilmington on October 2, 1961;
34 and

35 Whereas, on April 29, 1962, the ship was dedicated as a historic landmark, a museum
36 collecting and interpreting all ships named "North Carolina," and as a memorial to the World



1 War II veterans and the 11,000 North Carolinians of all branches of service who died during the
2 war; and

3 Whereas, in March 1986, the USS North Carolina became one of 22 ships to be
4 registered as a national historic landmark; and

5 Whereas, the USS North Carolina is a State historic site and a major tourist attraction,
6 bringing in between \$1.5 to \$3.5 million annually to the State and local economy and attracting
7 over 250,000 visitors; and

8 Whereas, the USS North Carolina accounts for over 3,500 jobs in New Hanover
9 County each year; and

10 Whereas, the Moravian cookie and the USS North Carolina should be adopted as
11 official State symbols; Now, therefore,

12 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

13 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding new sections
14 to read:

15 **"§ 145-52. Official State cookie.**

16 The Moravian cookie is adopted as the official cookie of the State of North Carolina.

17 **"§ 145-53. Official State ship.**

18 The USS North Carolina is adopted as the official ship of the State of North Carolina."

19 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.