

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

H

1

HOUSE BILL 755

Short Title: Official State Dance.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Cummings.

Referred to: State Government.

April 5, 1995

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE SQUARE DANCE AS THE AMERICAN FOLK
3 DANCE OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, love of state and professions is enhanced by traditions that have become a part of our way of life and the customs of the American people; and

Whereas, we have distinctive and meaningful symbols of our ideals in our State's flag and in many cultural endeavors, but no official designation of a State folk dance; and

Whereas, the square dance, which was first associated with the American people and recorded in history since 1651, has consistently been the one dance traditionally recognized by the American people as a dignified and enjoyable expression of American folk dancing; and

Whereas, square dancing is a traditional form of family recreation which symbolizes a basic strength of this country, namely the unity of family; and

Whereas, square dancing is an activity for young and old and encourages fellowship among the dancers; and

Whereas, square dancing is the American folk dance which is called, cued, or prompted to the dancers, and includes squares, rounds, clogging, contra, line, and heritage dances; and

Whereas, official recognition of the square dance will enhance the cultural stature of North Carolina both nationally and internationally; and

Whereas, national and international prestige is in the best interest of all Americans; and
Whereas, it is fitting that the square dance be added to the array of State symbols; Now,
therefore,

1 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

2 Section 1. Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
3 section to read:

4 "**§ 145-17. State dance.**

5 The square dance is adopted as the American folk dance of North Carolina."

6 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.