

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1995**

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HOUSE BILL 76\*

Short Title: African-American Heritage Comm.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representative Wainwright.

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Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

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January 31, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A RESERVE FOR STATE ASSISTANCE TO A CENTER  
2 FOR THE PROMOTION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE AND  
3 CULTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND TO ESTABLISH AN AFRICAN-  
4 AMERICAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is established in the Office of State Budget and Management  
7 a reserve of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) for State assistance  
8 to a center for promotion of African-American heritage and culture in North Carolina.  
9 Any unit of local government or any North Carolina nonprofit corporation may submit a  
10 proposal for consideration by the Advisory Committee created in Section 2 of this act for  
11 a one-time grant to partially fund the capital costs of such a center.

12 The funds are to be allocated as set forth below (i) upon approval by the  
13 Governor of a specific proposal for the establishment of such a center and (ii) upon the  
14 availability of a minimum local match of one dollar for every one State dollar needed for  
15 the estimated cost of the project. In-kind contributions of real property shall be  
16 considered in meeting the local matching requirement, provided that the real property is  
17 appraised pursuant to a procedure approved by the State Property Office.

18 Upon the Governor's approval of a specific proposal and the meeting of the  
19 local matching requirement, the Office of State Budget and Management shall release  
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1 funds for planning of the project in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total State  
2 funds to be allocated for the project. Upon the successful completion of the planning  
3 phase, the Governor shall authorize the release of the remaining funds necessary to  
4 complete the project. Any unexpended funds in this reserve at the end of the 1997-98  
5 fiscal year shall revert to the General Fund.

6       Sec. 2. There is established in the Department of Administration the African-  
7 American Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee for the purposes of (i) evaluating  
8 proposals for the establishment of a center for the promotion of African-American  
9 heritage and culture in North Carolina and (ii) advising the Governor on the expenditure  
10 of State funds for such a center. The Advisory Committee shall be composed of seven  
11 members, three to be appointed by the Governor, two to be appointed by the Speaker of  
12 the House of Representatives, and two to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of  
13 the Senate. Two of the members appointed by the Governor, one of the members  
14 appointed by the Speaker, and one of the members appointed by the President Pro  
15 Tempore shall be faculty members at colleges or universities in North Carolina who have  
16 demonstrated scholarly expertise in various aspects of African-American heritage and  
17 culture. The Advisory Committee shall terminate on the date the Governor approves a  
18 specific proposal or on June 30, 1998, whichever is earlier.

19       Sec. 3. The African-American Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee shall  
20 consider the following criteria in evaluating proposals and advising the Governor:

- 21       (1) The potential of the proposal to effectively commemorate the heritage  
22       and culture of African-Americans in North Carolina from colonial times  
23       to the present, including the unique contributions of African-Americans  
24       to the development and evolution of this State;
- 25       (2) The demonstrated level of financial support for the proposed project  
26       from non-State sources;
- 27       (3) The viability of the stated strategy for operation, maintenance, and  
28       support of the proposed center;
- 29       (4) The accessibility of the proposed center, including likely visitation;
- 30       (5) The prospects for linking the proposed center with other historical and  
31       cultural attractions in the region; and
- 32       (6) The tendency of the proposed design and layout of the center to  
33       facilitate and enhance the experience of visitors to the proposed center.

34       Sec. 4. All proposals shall be submitted to the Advisory Committee by  
35 December 31, 1995, and shall:

- 36       (1) Address all of the criteria enumerated in Section 3 of this act; and
- 37       (2) State the estimated capital cost of the proposed project.

38       Sec. 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.