

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

**SESSION LAW 2003-46  
HOUSE BILL 512**

**AN ACT TO ALLOW NONRESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS TO SERVE ON THE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION IN THE TOWN OF NAGS HEAD.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 160A-400.7 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 160A-400.7. Historic Preservation Commission.**

Before it may designate one or more landmarks or historic districts, a municipality shall establish or designate a historic preservation commission. The municipal governing board shall determine the number of the members of the commission, which shall be at least three, and the length of their terms, which shall be no greater than four years. A majority of the members of such a commission shall have demonstrated special interest, experience, or education in history, architecture, archaeology, or related fields. All the members shall reside or own real property within the territorial jurisdiction of the municipality as established pursuant to G.S. 160A-360. The commission may appoint advisory bodies and committees as appropriate.

In lieu of establishing a historic preservation commission, a municipality may designate as its historic preservation commission, (i) a separate historic districts commission or a separate historic landmarks commission established pursuant to this Part to deal only with historic districts or landmarks respectively, (ii) a planning agency established pursuant to this Article, or (iii) a community appearance commission established pursuant to Part 7 of this Article. In order for a commission or board other than the preservation commission to be designated, at least three of its members shall have demonstrated special interest, experience, or education in history, architecture, or related fields. At the discretion of the municipality the ordinance may also provide that the preservation commission may exercise within a historic district any or all of the powers of a planning agency or a community appearance commission.

A county and one or more cities in the county may establish or designate a joint preservation commission. If a joint commission is established or designated, the county and cities involved shall determine the residence requirements of members of the joint preservation commission."

**SECTION 2.** This act applies to the Town of Nags Head only.

**SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2003.

s/ Marc Basnight  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Richard T. Morgan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives