## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019

H HOUSE BILL 394

| Short Title: | Official State Cookie and Ship.   | (Public) |
|--------------|---|----------|
| Sponsors:    | Representatives Hardister, Grange, Lambeth, and Clemmons (Primary Sponsors).  For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly we. | b site.  |
| Referred to: | State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House  |          |

## March 21, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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31 32 AN ACT ADOPTING THE MORAVIAN COOKIE AS THE OFFICIAL STATE COOKIE AND THE USS NORTH CAROLINA AS THE OFFICIAL STATE SHIP.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



| 1  | Whereas, the USS North Carolina was moored in Wilmington on October 2, 1961;                      |
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| 2  | and   |
| 3  | Whereas, on April 29, 1962, the ship was dedicated as a historic landmark, a museum               |
| 4  | collecting and interpreting all ships named "North Carolina," and as a memorial to the World      |
| 5  | War II veterans and the 11,000 North Carolinians of all branches of service who died during the   |
| 6  | war; and  |
| 7  | Whereas, in March 1986, the USS North Carolina became one of 22 ships to be                       |
| 8  | registered as a national historic landmark; and   |
| 9  | Whereas, the USS North Carolina is a State historic site and a major tourist attraction,          |
| 10 | bringing in between \$1.5 to \$3.5 million annually to the State and local economy and attracting |
| 11 | over 250,000 visitors; and  |
| 12 | Whereas, the USS North Carolina accounts for over 3,500 jobs in New Hanover                       |
| 13 | County each year; and   |
| 14 | Whereas, the Moravian cookie and the USS North Carolina should be adopted as                      |
| 15 | official State symbols; Now, therefore,   |
| 16 | The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  |
| 17 | <b>SECTION 1.</b> Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding new sections           |
| 18 | to read:  |
| 19 | "§ 145-52. Official State cookie.   |
| 20 | The Moravian cookie is adopted as the official cookie of the State of North Carolina.             |
| 21 | "§ 145-53. Official State ship.   |
| 22 | The USS North Carolina is adopted as the official ship of the State of North Carolina."           |
| 23 | SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law  |