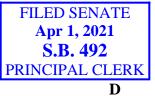
## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2021



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## SENATE BILL DRS15217-LGa-84

| Short Title: | Establish NC Textile Museum.      | (Public) |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Sponsors:    | Senator Craven (Primary Sponsor). |          |
| Referred to: |                                   |          |

| 1  | A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  |
|----|--|
| 2  | AN ACT TO CREATE THE NORTH CAROLINA TEXTILE MUSEUM AND TO  |
| 3  | APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE SAME.  |
| 4  | Whereas, the North Carolina Office of Archives and History was directed, pursuant                  |
| 5  | to S.L. 2019-118, to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a textile museum to preserve and     |
| 6  | interpret the State's textile heritage and industrial history; and                                 |
| 7  | Whereas, the feasibility study report was submitted to the North Carolina Historical               |
| 8  | Commission on May 29, 2020, and approved unanimously at the Commission's meeting on                |
| 9  | September 3, 2020; and   |
| 10 | Whereas, the feasibility study report was submitted to the Joint Legislative Oversight             |
| 11 | Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources on July 17, 2020; and                  |
| 12 | Whereas, the Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, is the                  |
| 13 | owner of real property in Franklinville and Cedar Falls on the Deep River in Randolph County,      |
| 14 | which includes two of the earliest cotton textile mills in the State; and                          |
| 15 | Whereas, Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., is also the custodian of 25,000                      |
| 16 | square feet of textile history artifacts and machinery acquired from the former American Textile   |
| 17 | History Museum in Lowell, Massachusetts, now warehoused in its properties; and                     |
| 18 | Whereas, the feasibility study committee evaluated the Randolph Heritage properties                |
| 19 | and collections and found them to be "exceptionalunrivaled in its breadth and depth and            |
| 20 | described by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers as a national treasure"; and             |
| 21 | Whereas, Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., has spent more than \$400,000 to                     |
| 22 | preserve and transport its collections to North Carolina and to purchase sufficient space to house |
| 23 | and interpret them to the public; and  |
| 24 | Whereas, Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc.'s, properties are centrally located and               |
| 25 | easily accessible to the public and provide a variety of synergetic marketing opportunities in     |
| 26 | coordination with the nearby Deep River State Trail and North Carolina Zoological Park; and        |
| 27 | Whereas, Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., is willing to enter into a                           |
| 28 | memorandum of understanding with the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources whereby          |
| 29 | the property at Cedar Falls and the American Textile Technology collections can be transferred     |
| 30 | to the State in phases, pursuant to the implementation of business development, staffing,          |
| 31 | programming, and exhibit plans; and  |
| 32 | Whereas, Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., acting as the museum's nonprofit                     |
| 33 | support group, can coordinate administrative and operational functions, performing upgrades to     |
| 34 | the building and properties required to accommodate the public, pursuant to grants provided by     |
| 35 | the State; Now, therefore,   |
| 36 | The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:   |



## **General Assembly Of North Carolina**

1 **SECTION 1.** There is established the North Carolina Textile Museum to preserve 2 the State's textile industrial heritage and mill village culture; to demonstrate the science, 3 engineering, and technology involved in that industry; and to present it to a wide public audience 4 in an interesting and entertaining way.

5 **SECTION 2.** The recommendations of the Textile Museum Feasibility Study 6 Committee are adopted, and the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is directed to 7 work with Randolph Heritage Conservancy, Inc., to develop and implement a comprehensive 8 plan for a textile museum and to plan for the transfer of assets and responsibilities to the State in 9 an orderly fashion.

10 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Randolph Heritage 11 Conservancy, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) 12 in nonrecurring funds for each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to implement a 13 comprehensive plan for the North Carolina Textile Museum under the supervision of the 14 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

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**SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.