

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2001**

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**HOUSE BILL 1368**

Short Title: MLK Resource Center Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Blue and Michaux.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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April 24, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
3 RESOURCE CENTER OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4       Whereas, Martin Luther King, Jr. was driven by his vision of racial equality  
5 for all people and devoted his life and ministry to the pursuit of this dream; and

6       Whereas, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Resource Center will be a  
7 state-of-the-art research facility that will serve as a repository for case studies and  
8 academic research from the State and nation's top scholars in the disciplines of  
9 sociology, psychology, anthropology, genetic biology, theology, economics, public  
10 safety, and technology; and

11       Whereas, the Center will benefit from the keenest minds of scholars,  
12 academicians from area colleges and universities, and beyond; and

13       Whereas, pursuant to its ideals and purposes, the Center has sought and  
14 received by unanimous vote of The University of North Carolina Board of Governors  
15 collaborative involvement and support among other private institutions of higher  
16 learning in North Carolina; and

17       Whereas, representatives of several of the constituent institutions of The  
18 University of North Carolina will serve on the Board of Directors of the King Center;  
19 and

20       Whereas, the Center will represent our best hope of bringing together a  
21 multidisciplinary team of experts, public officials, human service agency leaders, and  
22 grassroots citizens to dig deeply into finding manageable solutions to today's complex  
23 social problems related to educational and economic disparities throughout society; and

24       Whereas, the Center is designed to receive operating funds from private  
25 sources, including foundations, corporations, and civic organizations, and shall be  
26 matched by State funds during the 2001-2002 fiscal year on the basis of two dollars of  
27 State funds for every one dollar of non-State funds; and

1           Whereas, the Center will be located in Raleigh, but will serve as a resource  
2 for the entire State and its operations, programs, research, and solutions will be made  
3 available to all organizations; elected officials; State, county, and municipal agencies;  
4 media outlets; and educational institutions throughout the State and nation via various  
5 forms of electronic and technological means; and

6           Whereas, the Center will be the "crown jewel" of innovative and proactive  
7 programs designed to improve race relations through racial reconciliation efforts; and

8           Whereas, the Center's scholars will dutifully examine previously conducted  
9 studies and form ongoing collaborations with State institutions, agencies, commissions,  
10 and grassroots civic and community-based groups in conducting applied and clinical  
11 research; and

12           Whereas, the Center will serve as a Leadership Training Laboratory for  
13 creative thought, which will teach, motivate, and indoctrinate young people in the  
14 pursuit of educational disciplines which foster self-growth and development, leadership  
15 skills, reconciliation skills, spiritual enlightenment, and communication skills; and

16           Whereas, the Center's objectives are as follows:

- 17           (1) Collect data that supports strategies focused on the enhancement of  
18 racial and cultural cooperation, communication, and understanding.
- 19           (2) Document disparity levels between ethnic and cultural groups relating  
20 to housing, educational attainment, and availability of medical  
21 resources.
- 22           (3) Identify and catalog community resources available in the areas of  
23 child care, economic development, health care, crime prevention, job  
24 training, and community development.
- 25           (4) Identify and document the long-term psychological and physiological  
26 effects of social policy and group behavior, seek root causes of youth  
27 violence, and develop substantive conflict resolution systems  
28 throughout society.
- 29           (5) Understand the nature of the race/socioeconomic class relationship and  
30 provide solutions and strategies in overcoming persistent barriers;

31           Now, therefore,

32 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

33           **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to The  
34 Raleigh-Wake Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, Inc., a nonprofit  
35 corporation, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2001-2002  
36 fiscal year for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Resource Center of North Carolina.

37           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.