

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 419*

Sponsors: Representatives Warwick, McComas, Rayfield, Redwine, Smith; Allen, Allred, Baddour, Barbee, Barefoot, Bonner, Bowie, Boyd-McIntyre, Brubaker, Cansler, Cox, Crawford, Culp, Cunningham, Davis, Decker, Dedmon, Eddins, Edwards, Gibson, Goodwin, Grady, Gulley, Haire, Harrington, Hensley, Hill, Hurley, Johnson, Justus, Luebke, McCombs, McLawhorn, Mitchell, Morris, Nesbitt, Nye, Owens, Preston, Rogers, Russell, Saunders, Setzer, Sexton, Sherrill, Sutton, Tolson, Tucker, Underhill, Wainwright, Warner, G. Wilson, Wright, and Yongue.

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

March 1, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY NORTH CAROLINA'S TOURISM INDUSTRY AND
3 ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEWIDE.

4 Whereas, the popularity of North Carolina's coast, piedmont, and mountains
5 as recreational and tourism destinations, and as places to live and work has increased
6 dramatically in recent years; and

7 Whereas, the State's vision for the twenty-first century is that it will continue
8 to be a desirable place to live a productive, rewarding, and satisfying life in which each
9 of its citizens will have a shared sense of place, stewardship, and values; and

10 Whereas, according to a recent study conducted by the Department of
11 Environment and Natural Resources, the economic impact of tourism in the coastal and
12 mountain areas has risen from \$5 billion in 1986 to more than \$10 billion in 1999; and

13 Whereas, the study also indicates that population data show that North
14 Carolina's population has grown by more than 1,000,000 people since 1990 and
15 projections indicate that the population will grow almost 500,000 over the next five
16 years; and

17 Whereas, the State's natural resources are essential to the health and
18 well-being of its citizens and communities, as well as an integral part of ongoing
19 economic growth; and

20 Whereas, erosion, air pollution, and other deteriorating and polluting forces
21 threaten North Carolina's precious natural resources; and

1 Whereas, it is in the public interest that an immediate statewide effort be
2 made to identify and address the natural and manmade elements that threaten the State's
3 vital natural resources and its economic well-being; Now, therefore,

4 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

5 **SECTION 1.** The Legislative Research Commission may study issues
6 relating to:

7 (1) The tourism industry in the coastal, piedmont, and mountainous
8 regions of the State and the statewide economic impact of that
9 industry.

10 (2) The threats posed to the coastal, piedmont, and mountainous regions
11 by erosion, air pollution, and other natural and manmade elements that
12 deteriorate, pollute, or otherwise detract from the natural beauty of
13 those areas.

14 (3) The various options available to address those threats, the success of
15 those options, the economic feasibility of those options, and the
16 economic impact on the State if no action is taken regarding erosion,
17 water and air pollution, and other deteriorating, polluting, and
18 detracting forces.

19 (4) Any other issues relevant to this study.

20 **SECTION 2.** The Legislative Research Commission may make its
21 recommendations and submit an interim report to the 2001 General Assembly, Regular
22 Session 2002, and may make a final report to the 2003 General Assembly.

23 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.