

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015**

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HOUSE BILL 409

Short Title: Designate Official Fall Festival. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Stevens (Primary Sponsor).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

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

April 1, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT ADOPTING THE AUTUMN LEAVES FESTIVAL AS THE OFFICIAL FALL
FESTIVAL OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Autumn Leaves Festival, held annually in the Town of Mount Airy, is one of the longest-running events in the State; and

Whereas, the Festival began as a celebration of the end of the tobacco and apple harvesting season, and is now in its 49th year; and

Whereas, the Festival attracts over 200,000 visitors over a three-day weekend in October of each year and provides fun activities for the entire family; and

Whereas, the Festival showcases the State's rich musical heritage with local musicians performing styles that include old-time, bluegrass, and gospel; and

Whereas, over 200 artisans demonstrate their talents and skills passed down for generations through unique arts and crafts; and

Whereas, attendees can sample "Food for the Soul," served with hospitality by local civic and service organizations; and

Whereas, the Festival consistently ranks as one of the "Top 20 Events" in the Southeast by the Southeast Tourism Society; and

Whereas, the State does not have an official fall festival; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 145-48. Official fall festival.

The Autumn Leaves Festival, held the second weekend of October of every year in Mount Airy, is adopted as the official fall festival of the State of North Carolina."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

