

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019**

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**HOUSE BILL 44**

Short Title: Fort Fisher Historic Site Funds. (Public)

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Sponsors: Representative Davis.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

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Referred to: State and Local Government, if favorable, Appropriations, Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

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February 12, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND  
3 CULTURAL RESOURCES FOR PROJECTS AT THE FORT FISHER STATE HISTORIC  
4 SITE.

5       Whereas, the Fort Fisher State Historic Site is the most visited State Historic Site,  
6 attracting more than 900,000 visitors at the end of the last fiscal year; and

7       Whereas, many of Fort Fisher's visitors are school groups from New Hanover County;  
8 groups from summer camp programs such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Junior  
9 ROTC; nursing homes; military groups; families; and other tourists; and

10       Whereas, to accommodate the visitors at Fort Fisher, funds are needed to build a new  
11 visitor center, which will provide additional space for exhibits, a larger auditorium to handle  
12 several school groups at once, a multipurpose space for classrooms, storage facilities for archives,  
13 and rental space for additional income; and

14       Whereas, funds are also needed to expand Fort Fisher's earthworks exhibit, upgrade  
15 its parking lot, and build a new maintenance facility; and

16       Whereas, additional funds are needed to plan facilities for the Underwater  
17 Archaeology Branch to be located on the grounds of the Fort Fisher State Historic Site to preserve  
18 the State's maritime history; Now, therefore,

19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20       **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
21 Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources, the sum of seven million five  
22 hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to complete various capital  
23 projects at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site.

24       **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
25 Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources, Office of State Archaeology,  
26 the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to plan  
27 facilities for the Underwater Archaeology Branch to be located on the grounds of the Fort Fisher  
28 State Historic Site.

29       **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

