

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 89

Short Title: Adopt Official State Cookie and Star. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hardister, Lambeth, Zenger, and White (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: State Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 14, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT ADOPTING THE MORAVIAN COOKIE AND THE MORAVIAN STAR AS THE  
3 OFFICIAL STATE COOKIE AND STAR.

4 Whereas, during the 18th century, settlers from the European kingdom of Moravia  
5 traveled to America and founded the town of Salem (now Winston-Salem) in North Carolina in  
6 1766; and

7 Whereas, when the Moravians settled in North Carolina, they brought with them a  
8 spice cookie similar to the German Lebkuchen cookie; and

9 Whereas, these thin spice cookies are known as Moravian cookies and made of  
10 ingredients such as molasses, allspice, and ginger; and

11 Whereas, the Moravian cookie is one of the most popular cookies in North Carolina;  
12 and

13 Whereas, Moravian cookies have been made and sold in Winston-Salem since the  
14 1950s and millions of pounds of cookies are baked, packaged, and distributed worldwide  
15 annually; and

16 Whereas, sales of Moravian cookies promote tourism in the State and contribute to  
17 the State's economy; and

18 Whereas, many believe the Moravian star originated in Germany in the 1830s during  
19 a geometry lesson at the Moravian Boys School; and

20 Whereas, the star was adopted by the Moravian Church as an advent symbol and later  
21 became a popular symbol all around the world; and

22 Whereas, the Moravian star is usually hung the first Sunday of Advent and remains  
23 up until Epiphany, January 6; and

24 Whereas, it is fitting to recognize the positive impact the Moravians have had on  
25 North Carolina's culture by adopting the Moravian cookie as the official State cookie and the  
26 Moravian star as the official State star; Now, therefore,  
27 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

28 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
29 following new sections to read:

30 "**§ 145-52. State cookie.**

31 The Moravian cookie is adopted as the official cookie of the State of North Carolina.

32 "**§ 145-53. State star.**

33 The Moravian star is adopted as the official star of the State of North Carolina."

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

