

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

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SENATE BILL 813*
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S813-PCS35376-RI-45

Short Title: DCR and DENR/Study State Attractions Savings.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 21, 2012

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STUDY VARIOUS REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS AND POTENTIAL SAVINGS AT STATE HISTORIC SITES AND MUSEUMS, THE STATE ZOO, STATE PARKS, AND STATE AQUARIUMS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM EVALUATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Department of Cultural Resources shall implement the following recommendations:

- (1) Study site proximity and span of control to identify historic sites that could adopt a coordinated management structure and report no later than December 15, 2012, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government and Information Technology and the House Appropriations Committee on General Government.
- (2) Study reduced schedules for historic sites and report no later than December 15, 2012, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government and Information Technology and the House Appropriations Committee on General Government.
- (3) Study the feasibility of implementing more reliable mechanisms for counting visitors and report no later than December 15, 2012, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government and Information Technology and the House Appropriations Committee on General Government.
- (4) Determine the appropriate operating schedule for the Richard Caswell Memorial after the CSS Neuse moves to its new location.
- (5) Study potential savings from introducing and expanding admission fees; eliminating discounts or raising fees; adopting corporate sponsorship for some sites; and transferring operations to nonprofit support groups, municipalities, or other appropriate entities and report no later than December 15, 2012, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government and Information Technology and the House Appropriations Committee on General Government. The report should specifically address potential savings at the following historic sites:



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- 1 a. Alamance Battleground.
- 2 b. Aycock Birthplace.
- 3 c. Bennett Place.
- 4 d. Bentonville Battlefield.
- 5 e. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial.
- 6 f. Duke Homestead.
- 7 g. Historic Edenton.
- 8 h. Historic Stagville.
- 9 i. Museum of the Albemarle.
- 10 j. Thomas Wolfe Memorial.
- 11 k. Town Creek Indian Mound.

12 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall
13 implement the following recommendations:

- 14 (1) Study site proximity and span of control to identify parks that could adopt a
15 coordinated management structure and report no later than December 15,
16 2012, to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic
17 Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and
18 Economic Resources.
- 19 (2) Study daily visitation data to determine potential changes from daily or
20 seasonal closure of specific parks and report no later than December 15,
21 2012, to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic
22 Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and
23 Economic Resources.
- 24 (3) Validate no less frequently than every five years the number of visitors per
25 car used in the calculation of visitor counts at State parks. The first report on
26 this analysis shall be presented to the House Appropriations Subcommittee
27 on Natural and Economic Resources and the Senate Appropriations
28 Committee on Natural and Economic Resources no later than October 1,
29 2013.
- 30 (4) Provide an analysis of anticipated State costs and savings from partnering
31 with nonprofits for operations at the zoo and aquariums and
32 recommendations for partnering based on the analysis no later than
33 December 15, 2012, to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural
34 and Economic Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on
35 Natural and Economic Resources.
- 36 (5) Study and report no later than December 15, 2012, to the House
37 Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic Resources and the
38 Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic Resources
39 regarding potential savings from each of the following changes:
 - 40 a. Introducing or expanding admissions fees, eliminating discounts, or
41 raising fees.
 - 42 b. Adopting corporate sponsorship for some sites.
 - 43 c. Transferring operations to nonprofit support groups, municipalities,
44 or other appropriate entities.

45 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.