

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1961 SESSION

CHAPTER 1068
SENATE BILL 268

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR MORE ADEQUATE TEACHING OF THE NORTH
2 CAROLINA AND LOCAL HISTORY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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4 WHEREAS, at the present time the more than one million students in the public
5 schools of North Carolina are not receiving adequate instruction in the history of their own
6 State and of their respective counties and communities; and

7 WHEREAS, in many instances the aforesaid students are taught more regarding the
8 history of ancient Greece and Rome, of medieval and modern Europe, of the British Empire,
9 and of the. United States in general than they are taught of the history of their own State of
10 North Carolina and of their own localities; and

11 WHEREAS, many of our history books emphasize the past achievements and the
12 great men of certain other States of the Union, but either omit entirely or else barely mention
13 similar facts regarding the State of North Carolina; and

14 WHEREAS, many of the teachers in our public schools are not now properly
15 prepared and educated to give adequate instruction in North Carolina history and need to be
16 better trained in this field, and a Statewide historical advisor is needed to coordinate such a
17 program of teacher training; and

18 WHEREAS, materials on the history of many of our counties are either totally
19 lacking or are sadly inadequate; and

20 WHEREAS, due to the aforesaid situation, the State of North Carolina has never
21 received its due and deserved share of credit for the essential part it played in the building of
22 the American Nation, a condition that has not stimulated proper State pride among our people
23 and has resulted in our failing to receive a fair share of the business of tourists who come to
24 visit historic sites; and

25 WHEREAS, a number of our leading citizens and State-wide and other
26 organizations, such as the North Carolina Society of County and Local Historians, the North
27 Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, the North Carolina Literary and Historical
28 Association, the North Carolina Folklore Society, the Roanoke Island Historical Association,
29 and others are determined that the bad situation outlined above ought to and must be remedied,
30 and these organizations have requested that the General Assembly take appropriate action:
31 Now, therefore,

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33 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

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35 **Section 1.** The Department of Archives and History, with the cooperation of the
36 Superintendent of Public Instruction, is hereby authorized and directed to develop and conduct
37 a program for the better and more adequate teaching of State and local history in the public
38 schools of North Carolina, including the preparation and publication of suitable histories of all
39 counties where such histories do not now exist and of other appropriate materials, the
40 distribution of such materials to the public schools for a reasonable charge, and the
41 coordination of this program throughout the State.

42 **Sec. 2.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

43 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

1
2 1961.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 21st day of June,