

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1969 SESSION

CHAPTER 1163
HOUSE BILL 1092

1 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND
2 DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LANDS TO ESTABLISH RAVEN ROCK
3 STATE PARK.
4

5 WHEREAS, there is situated on the Cape Fear River approximately six miles
6 northwest of Lillington in Harnett County, an unusual geological and vegetative complex,
7 which is known as Raven Rock; and

8 WHEREAS, Raven Rock, consisting of imposing quartzite and slate rises
9 approximately 150 feet above the Cape Fear River at the fall line between the Coastal Plain and
10 the Piedmont areas of the State; and

11 WHEREAS, Raven Rock is one of the few, if not only, places in the eastern part of
12 the State which still retains, unspoiled, an area containing artifacts which date back to the
13 period when the State was unknown to the white man and when the only human inhabitants of
14 the area were Indians who fished the teeming Cape Fear River and hunted the abundant game
15 in the nearby forests; and

16 WHEREAS, the area surrounding Raven Rock has established examples of trailing
17 arbutus, galax, mountain laurel and other plants which are commonly associated with the
18 mountains of the western part of the State and are virtually unknown to most of the inhabitants
19 of eastern North Carolina; and

20 WHEREAS, there are in excess of three-quarters of a million people who live
21 within fifty miles of Raven Rock who would benefit from the establishment there of a State
22 park; and

23 WHEREAS, there are eight senior colleges and universities also within a fifty mile
24 radius of Raven Rock and the establishment of a State park there would be of great value to
25 their students and their educational programs; and

26 WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Parks and Study Commission, created by the
27 1967 Session of the General Assembly, stated in their report to the 1969 Session of the General
28 Assembly that the first addition to the State park system should be a park that would primarily
29 serve the sandhills area of the State; and Raven Rock is adjacent to the sandhills; and

30 WHEREAS, Raven Rock and the surrounding area have been visited and
31 investigated by the Division of State Parks of the Department of Conservation and
32 Development, the research team working with the State Parks and State Forest Study
33 Commission and a representative of the National Park Service, and all these groups endorse
34 and recommend the acquisition by the State of Raven Rock and enough surrounding land for
35 the establishment of a State park; and

36 WHEREAS, the citizens of Harnett County and surrounding counties strongly
37 endorse the establishment of a State park at Raven Rock;
38 NOW, THEREFORE,
39

40 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:
41

42 **Section 1.** There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Conservation and
43 Development, in addition to all other appropriations, out of the General Fund, the sum of one

1 hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing such lands as
2 are necessary to acquire Raven Rock and enough surrounding land to establish a State park at
3 Raven Rock in Harnett County for the benefit of this and future generations of citizens of the
4 State.

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

6 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall become effective on July 1, 1969.

7 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 30th day of June,
8 1969.