

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1981 SESSION

CHAPTER 1026
SENATE BILL 151

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR DEVELOPING ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS,
UPGRADING ARTIFACT STORAGE AND INSTALLING CLIMATE CONTROL AND
SECURITY SYSTEMS IN THE RURAL LIFE MUSEUM AT MARS HILL COLLEGE.

Whereas, the Rural Life Museum was established in 1979 by the Mars Hill College Southern Appalachian Center; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Rural Life Museum is to facilitate the collection, preservation, exhibition and interpretation of rural life materials relevant to the history and culture of North Carolina's mountain region; and

Whereas, the museum, as an educational institution, seeks to assist the people of the region in understanding their past and in relating their past to contemporary issues through the use of displays and educational programs; and

Whereas, the museum, since its inception, has received all of its monetary support from Mars Hill College for renovating, adapting and developing the southwest wing (1,200 square feet) of the Montague Building as a museum facility; and

Whereas, the southeast wing (1,500 square feet) of the Montague Building has been given to the museum for development as additional museum space for displaying and interpreting artifacts from three major collections currently in storage; and

Whereas, artifacts from the museum collection which are not on display are inadequately housed in various repositories on the Mars Hill campus; and

Whereas, the collection storage should be consolidated and upgraded either within the Montague Building or at some other suitable location on campus; and

Whereas, the artifacts that are being preserved at the Rural Life Museum are some of the few remaining evidences of a way of life that has been rapidly disappearing from North Carolina's formerly isolated mountain region; and

Whereas, the installation of security and climate control systems is essential to the protection and preservation of these artifacts; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Cultural Resources for the fiscal year 1981-82 the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the purpose of developing additional interpretive exhibits, consolidating and upgrading artifact storage, and installing climate control and security systems in the Rural Life Museum at Mars Hill College, provided a like amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) is raised by the College.

Sec. 2. Funds appropriated in this act shall be expended only in accordance with G.S. 121-11 and G.S. 143-31.2.

Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 10th day of October, 1981.