

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 1920

Short Title: Globe Theatre Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hunt; Weatherly and Lutz.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 31, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO RUTHERFORD COUNTY ARTS
2 COUNCIL, INC., TO COMPLETE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GLOBE
3 THEATRE.
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5 Whereas, the Rutherford County Arts Council, Inc., proposed 10 years ago,
6 and has been engaged in the building of an authentic replica of Shakespeare's Globe
7 Theatre in Alexander Mills, North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, this effort has been supported by Rutherford County, the Town of
9 Alexander Mills, the North Carolina Arts Council, and various corporate and foundation
10 donors in the total amount of over \$400,000 in cash and kind contributions; and

11 Whereas, the Globe Theatre was the stage upon which most of the plays of
12 Shakespeare were first produced; and

13 Whereas, the replica of the Globe Theatre is based on the contemporary
14 drawings of the Second Globe Theatre constructed in 1614, following the destruction by
15 fire of the First Globe Theatre in 1613; and

16 Whereas, the newly-constructed Second Globe Theatre was described at the
17 time as "far fairer than before"; and

18 Whereas, an authentic reproduction of an Elizabethan stage would be a
19 unique resource for dramatic productions, including those of Johnson, Marlowe, and
20 Beaumont and Fletcher, written during the Golden Age of English theatre, and for plays,
21 music, and dance of other periods; and

22 Whereas, the proposed Globe Theatre would give a true sense of how these
23 productions were originally presented and received; and

24 Whereas, there is no similar full-size theatre elsewhere in North America; and

1 Whereas, England's leading Elizabethan theatrical scholar and artist, C.
2 Walter Hodges, is in charge of ensuring the authenticity of the design of the Globe
3 Theatre; and

4 Whereas, the Globe Theatre would be a significant addition to this State's
5 cultural attractions on this period of history, which include the North Carolina
6 Shakespeare Festival and the Lost Colony; and

7 Whereas, such a theatre would be a significant site for scholarship and for
8 State and national companies presenting Elizabethan drama; and

9 Whereas, the Globe Theatre would be a resource attracting not only adults
10 from this and other countries, but also the school children of North Carolina and six
11 surrounding states to awake in them a love of theatre and of the language of
12 Shakespeare; Now, therefore,

13 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

14 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Rutherford
15 County Arts Council, Inc., the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the
16 1994-95 fiscal year to complete the construction of the Globe Theatre in the Town of
17 Alexander Mills.

18 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.