

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 1018

Short Title: Adopt Cougar As State Cat. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Brock; and Apodaca.

Referred to: State and Local Government.

March 24, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT ADOPTING THE COUGAR AS THE OFFICIAL STATE CAT OF NORTH
CAROLINA.

Whereas, the cougar is a member of the small cat family and is sometimes referred to as the panther, puma, catamount, mountain lion, and painter; and

Whereas, an adult cougar can reach eight feet in length, including its tail, and can weigh more than 150 pounds; and

Whereas, cougars are solitary nocturnal predators that feed primarily on deer and other small mammals; and

Whereas, cougars were once prevalent in North Carolina, but in recent years only a few sightings have been reported; and

Whereas, adopting the cougar as the official State cat of North Carolina would help bring about awareness of this magnificent animal; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 145-22. State cat.

The cougar is adopted as the official State cat of the State of North Carolina."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.