

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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HOUSE BILL 303

Short Title: New Bern Historic Preservation. (Local)

Sponsors: Representatives Underhill and Wainwright (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Local Government II.

February 22, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE CITY OF NEW BERN TO REQUIRE A PERMIT PRIOR
3 TO DEMOLITION OF A CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE WITHIN A LOCALLY
4 DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT.

5 Whereas, New Bern was North Carolina's first permanent State capital; and

6 Whereas, New Bern is the home of the restored Tryon Palace Complex,
7 where legislators first governed; and

8 Whereas, New Bern contains over 1,100 original 18th, 19th, and early 20th
9 century contributing structures which complement and enhance the Palace Complex and
10 the historic character and integrity of the City; and

11 Whereas, historic preservation contributes to the economic, social, and
12 cultural well-being of New Bern and the State of North Carolina; and

13 Whereas, protecting New Bern from the loss of its historic architectural
14 resources is of statewide importance; Now, therefore,

15 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

16 **SECTION 1.(a)** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 160A-400.14, a
17 municipality may adopt an ordinance providing that no contributing structure within a
18 locally designated historic district in the municipality may be demolished without a
19 permit.

20 **SECTION 1.(b)** The municipality may adopt, modify, and revise such
21 ordinances as are necessary to implement this section and to further its intent.

22 **SECTION 2.** This act applies to the City of New Bern only.

23 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.