

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE BILL 394\***

Short Title: New Bern Historic Preservation. (Local)

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Sponsors: Senator Preston.

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Referred to: State & Local Government.

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February 28, 2007

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

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

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

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

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

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

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

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