

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 44
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10027-LGa-27

Short Title: Fort Fisher Historic Site Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Davis.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND
3 CULTURAL RESOURCES FOR PROJECTS AT THE FORT FISHER STATE HISTORIC
4 SITE.

5 Whereas, the Fort Fisher State Historic Site is the most visited State Historic Site,
6 attracting more than 900,000 visitors at the end of the last fiscal year; and

7 Whereas, many of Fort Fisher's visitors are school groups from New Hanover County;
8 groups from summer camp programs such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Junior
9 ROTC; nursing homes; military groups; families; and other tourists; and

10 Whereas, to accommodate the visitors at Fort Fisher, funds are needed to build a new
11 visitor center, which will provide additional space for exhibits, a larger auditorium to handle
12 several school groups at once, a multipurpose space for classrooms, storage facilities for archives,
13 and rental space for additional income; and

14 Whereas, funds are also needed to expand Fort Fisher's earthworks exhibit, upgrade
15 its parking lot, and build a new maintenance facility; and

16 Whereas, additional funds are needed to plan facilities for the Underwater
17 Archaeology Branch to be located on the grounds of the Fort Fisher State Historic Site to preserve
18 the State's maritime history; Now, therefore,
19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
21 Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources, the sum of seven million five
22 hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to complete various capital
23 projects at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site.

24 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
25 Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources, Office of State Archaeology,
26 the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to plan
27 facilities for the Underwater Archaeology Branch to be located on the grounds of the Fort Fisher
28 State Historic Site.

29 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

