

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE BILL 21
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/13/05

Short Title: Adopt State Food Festival.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 1, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ADOPT THE LEXINGTON BARBECUE FESTIVAL AS THE
3 OFFICIAL FOOD FESTIVAL OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, the first barbecue restaurant opened in the Town of Lexington in
5 1919; and

6 Whereas, Lexington has become well known for its barbecue and has been
7 referred to as the Barbecue Capital of the World; and

8 Whereas, since 1984, Lexington has held an annual Barbecue Festival; and

9 Whereas, the Lexington Barbecue Festival has become one of the most
10 popular food festivals in the country; and

11 Whereas, at the Lexington Barbecue Festival more than 150,000 visitors
12 enjoy delicious food as well as a number of rides, games, and regional music; and

13 Whereas, during the Lexington Barbecue Festival, civic and nonprofit
14 organizations sponsor events and sell goods to raise funds and present educational
15 information to the public, and a number of local artists showcase and sell their crafts;
16 and

17 Whereas, the Lexington Barbecue Festival was named "One of the Top Ten
18 Food Festivals in the Country" by Travel and Leisure Magazine and a "Top 20 Event
19 for the Month of October 2002" by the Southeast Tourism Society; and

20 Whereas, the State of North Carolina does not have an official food festival;
21 Now, therefore,

22 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

25 **"§ 145-22. State food festival.**

26 The Lexington Barbecue Festival is adopted as the official food festival of the State
27 of North Carolina."

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