

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2005**

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**HOUSE DRH50001-LG-16 (1/11)**

Short Title: Cooleemee Historic Site & Initiative Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representative Howard.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
3 COOLEEMEE TEXTILE HERITAGE HISTORIC SITE AND THE SOUTHWIDE  
4 TEXTILE HERITAGE INITIATIVE.

5       Whereas, the State of North Carolina is greatly indebted for the wealth and  
6 prosperity generated by its cotton textile industry; and

7       Whereas, there is no fitting monument to those men, women, and children  
8 who carded, spun, and wove the products of this industry; and

9       Whereas, in the Town of Cooleemee exists the State's first museum telling the  
10 story of the South's unique mill village culture; and

11       Whereas, over the past 16 years Cooleemee's Textile Heritage Center has won  
12 an impressive array of national and State awards for its efforts in documenting the  
13 history and heritage of cotton mill people; and

14       Whereas, in 1996, Cooleemee's Textile Heritage Center brought together an  
15 impressive assembly of scholars and representatives from 27 mill villages, creating a  
16 permanent regional effort to document the history and heritage of cotton mill people;  
17 and

18       Whereas, Cooleemee's Textile Heritage Center is now coordinating the  
19 Southwide Textile Heritage Initiative, a grassroots movement to preserve the stories,  
20 places, and historical records of the Southern cotton mill people for our future  
21 generations; and

22       Whereas, the Town of Cooleemee plans to expand its public history capacity  
23 by developing a mill house museum, other exhibits, and an outdoor drama and public  
24 park on the beautiful shoals of the South Yadkin River; and

25       Whereas, the location of the Town of Cooleemee provides easy access from  
26 the I-40, I-77, and I-85 corridors, making heritage tourism partnerships feasible with

1 State-run historic sites such as the North Carolina Transportation Museum in the Town  
2 of Spencer; and

3           Whereas, the development of the Cooleemee Textile Heritage Historic Site  
4 will enhance Davie County's economy through the creation of jobs and the stimulation  
5 of small businesses; Now, therefore,

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7           **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Cooleemee  
8 Historical Association, a nonprofit corporation, in Davie County the sum of three  
9 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year for the development  
10 of the Cooleemee Textile Heritage Historic Site and the Southwide Textile Heritage  
11 Initiative.

12           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.