

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 927

Short Title: UNC/William Richardson Davie Statue. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lewis, Cotham, and Howard (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Education.

April 15, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
2 NORTH CAROLINA SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO CONSTRUCT A STATUE OF
3 WILLIAM RICHARDSON DAVIE, NORTH CAROLINA'S TENTH GOVERNOR AND
4 THE FOUNDING FATHER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.
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6 Whereas, William Richardson Davie was born on June 22, 1756, in England, and
7 immigrated to America with his parents in 1764, settling in the Waxhaws region of South
8 Carolina; and

9 Whereas, William Richardson Davie graduated with honors from Princeton
10 University; and

11 Whereas, William Richardson Davie served in the Revolutionary War, earning the
12 rank of colonel and was appointed commissioner general; and

13 Whereas, after the war, William Richardson Davie moved to Halifax, North
14 Carolina, and began a law practice; and

15 Whereas, William Richardson Davie was elected to the House of Commons in 1784,
16 and later served as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention held in Philadelphia in May
17 1787; and

18 Whereas, William Richardson Davie also served as a delegate to the State
19 constitutional conventions held in Hillsborough in 1788 and in Fayetteville in 1789; and

20 Whereas, during the Assembly's session in 1789, William Richardson Davie
21 introduced a bill to establish The University of North Carolina; and

22 Whereas, on December 11, 1789, The University of North Carolina, the first state
23 university in the United States, was chartered; and

24 Whereas, William Richardson Davie represented the Town of Halifax until he was
25 elected by the Legislature as Governor of North Carolina on December 4, 1798, making him
26 the tenth person to serve in that honored position; and

27 Whereas, William Richardson Davie deserves to be permanently recognized for the
28 contributions he made to this State, the State's higher education system, and the nation; Now,
29 therefore,

30 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

31 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall
32 develop a plan to construct a statue of William Richardson Davie, North Carolina's 10th
33 Governor and the "founding father" of The University of North Carolina, on the campus of the
34 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The plan shall include, among other relevant
35 details, the following: (i) prominent sites on campus for the location of the statue; (ii) the



1 projected costs of hiring a sculptor and other appropriate personnel; and (iii) a process,
2 including at least one public hearing, for students and members of the general public to
3 comment on the erection of the statue, including the proposed sites and costs. The Board of
4 Governors shall also develop a strategy and time line for raising private funds to cover the costs
5 associated with designing and constructing the statue. The Board of Governors shall use its
6 discretion as to the acceptance and expenditure of private funds under this section. No public
7 funds may be used for any costs associated with constructing the statute.

8 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Board of Governors shall deliver a draft of its plan to the
9 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 1, 2014, and a final proposal to
10 the same committee by October 1, 2014.

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