

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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SENATE BILL 2044

Short Title: CSS Neuse Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Albertson.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

May 28, 2008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE CSS
2 NEUSE, A CIVIL WAR-ERA IRONCLAD GUNBOAT.

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4 Whereas, the CSS Neuse is one of only three surviving Civil War gunboats in
5 the world, but is currently housed under a temporary shelter that provides minimal
6 protection from the elements; and

7 Whereas, the CSS Neuse was dug from the river bottom over 40 years ago,
8 has been constantly exposed to an outdoor environment in the time since its excavation,
9 and is considered by experts to have a remaining life span of only seven years in its
10 current setting; and

11 Whereas, the CSS Neuse is North Carolina's largest historical artifact, is
12 listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is a designated project of Save
13 America's Historical Treasures; Now, therefore,
14 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

15 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
16 Department of Cultural Resources the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)
17 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year for the relocation and housing of the CSS Neuse, a Civil
18 War-era ironclad gunboat, to a climate controlled facility that will also house a Civil
19 War museum. These funds shall be used to provide a safe environment for the
20 preservation of the CSS Neuse and other Civil War artifacts in a museum setting. The
21 city of Kinston, Lenoir County, and the Department of Cultural Resources have already
22 invested seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) toward this endeavor.

23 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2008.