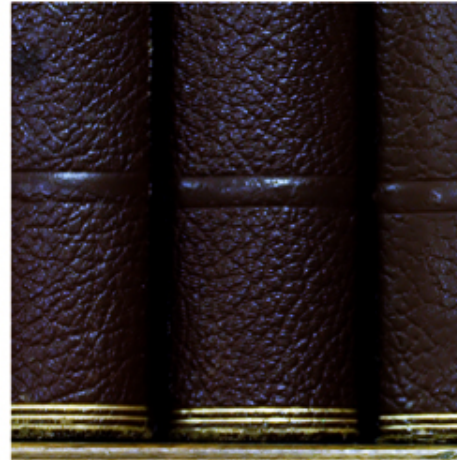


A Beginner's Guide to Legislative History

North Carolina Library Association

Government Resources Section

November 9, 2011



Steven Case
Access Services Librarian

Rebecca Hyman
Reference & Outreach
Librarian



Government and Heritage Library



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Government and Heritage Library



The Government and Heritage Library's mission is to preserve and facilitate public access to state government information; advance the study, understanding, and appreciation of North Carolina's cultural heritage; and provide library resources and services that support the operational needs of state government agencies.

NEW HOURS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2011

Staff Resources:
[DCR Intranet](#) (only available on-site)
[Staff Wiki](#)

<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl>

What is Legislative History?

- The background and events leading to the enactment of a statute, including hearings, committee reports, and floor debates.

Black's Law Dictionary, deluxe 9th edition

Legislative History can answer...



- What does the law mean?
- Why does the law say what it does?

Legislative History vs. Statutory History

- Legislative history = meaning
 - What does it mean?
 - Context/debates
- Statutory history = time
 - What did it say?

An example:

- “Any person who injures another person with a motor vehicle shall be punished as a Class B felon.” [Not a real statute]
 - What is meant by “motor vehicle?” (legislative hist.)
 - When did this law become effective? (statutory hist.)

Legislative vs. Statutory continued...

- Real world consequences
- Makes a difference in how you guide patrons and where the sources are

Some roadblocks on the way



- Superseded statutes (limited availability)
- Debates (no official transcripts; limited recordings)
- Committee minutes (only since 1967; many are summaries only)

Statutes for North Carolina

- Up to 1820
 - Session Laws – GHL (print and online)
- 1820 - 1943
 - Compilations of Statutes ~every 20 years (print and online at www.archive.org)
- 1943 – current
 - Current statutes in print and online
 - Superseded statutes in print only

Print version of the statutes

§ 52-1. Property of married persons secured.

The real and personal property of any married person in this State, acquired before marriage or to which he or she may after marriage become in any manner entitled, shall be and remain the sole and separate estate and property of such married person and may be devised, bequeathed and conveyed by such married person subject to G.S. 50-20 and such other regulations and limitations as the General Assembly may prescribe. (Const., Art. X, s. 6; Rev., s. 2093; C.S., s. 2506; 1965, c. 878, s. 1; 1981, c. 815, s. 3.)

Cross References. — For constitutional provision as to property of married women, see N.C. Const., Art. X, § 4. As to conveyances by husband and wife, see G.S. 39-7 et seq. As to contracts of married persons, see G.S. 52-2.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1965, c. 878 s. 1, repealed and rewrote Chapter 52 of the General Statutes. Where present provisions are similar to prior statutory provisions, the historical citations from the former sections have been added to the new sections. Former G.S.

52-1 applied to married women only.

Annotations to present Chapter 52 construing provisions of the former Chapter have been retained where it is thought they will be helpful.

Legal Periodicals. — For comment on the enforceability of marital contracts, see 47 N.C.L. Rev. 815 (1969).

For comment on the tax effects of equitable distribution upon divorce, see 18 Wake Forest L. Rev. 555 (1982).

CASE NOTES

Editor's Note. — *Most of the cases below were decided under former statutory provisions relating to the property of married women.*

History. — For a discussion of the history of this legislation and of many of the earlier cases construing it, see Ball v. Paquin, 140 N.C. 83, 52 S.E. 410 (1905).

Common Law. — At common law, marriage was an absolute gift to the husband of all the personal property of the wife in possession, and the same became his property instantly on the marriage; and it was a qualified gift of all the personal property adversely held, and all the choses in action of the wife, which became the husband's absolutely upon his reduction of the same into possession, during coverture, with

the right in case the wife died to administer on her estate, and in that character to collect, and after payment of her debts to hold the surplus to his own use, without obligation to distribute to anyone. O'Connor v. Harris, 81 N.C. 279 (1879).

At common law it was competent to the husband having choses in action "jure mariti" to assign the same for value, or as a security to pay his debts, and the assignment availed to pass the right to the assignee to collect and have the proceeds as his absolute property, if collected during coverture, just as the husband might have done if he had kept and reduced it into possession himself. O'Connor v. Harris, 81 N.C. 279 (1879).

General Statutes

North Carolina General Statutes

NOTE: The Statutes on the North Carolina General Assembly web site reflect changes made in the [2010](#) session.

Until the statutes have been updated with changes made in the 2011 legislative session, please refer to the [General Statutes and Session Laws Affected by 2011 Ratified Bills](#).

Full-Text Search [?]:

Look-Up by Citation:

- Chapter 1 - Civil Procedure.
- Chapter 1A - Rules of Civil Procedure.
- Chapter 1B - Contribution.
- [Chapter 1C - Enforcement of Judgments.](#)
- Chapter 1D - Punitive Damages.
- Chapter 1E - Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.
- Chapter 2 - Clerk of Superior Court [Repealed and Transferred.]
- Chapter 3 - Commissioners of Affidavits and Deeds [Repealed.]
- Chapter 4 - Common Law.
- Chapter 5 - Contempt [Repealed.]
- Chapter 5A - Contempt.
- Chapter 6 - Liability for Court Costs.
- Chapter 7 - Courts [Repealed and Transferred.]
- Chapter 7A - Judicial Department.
- Chapter 7B - Juvenile Code.
- Chapter 8 - Evidence.
- Chapter 8A - Interpreters for Deaf Persons [Recodified.]
- Chapter 8B - Interpreters for Deaf Persons.
- Chapter 8C - Evidence Code.
- Chapter 9 - Jurors.
- Chapter 10 - Notaries [Repealed.]
- Chapter 10A - Notaries [Recodified.]
- Chapter 10B - Notaries.
- Chapter 11 - Oaths.
- Chapter 12 - Statutory Construction.
- Chapter 13 - Citizenship Restored.
- Chapter 14 - Criminal Law.
- Chapter 15 - Criminal Procedure.
- Chapter 15A - Criminal Procedure Act.

← Arranged by subject

<http://www.ncleg.net>

The Statutes continued....

North Carolina General Statutes

Chapter 14: Criminal Law.

Full-Text Search ? :

Look-Up by Citation: Example: 17D-4

[View Consolidated Chapter](#) [RTF] [PDF]

Article 1 - Felonies and Misdemeanors. [RTF] [PDF]

- § 14-1. Felonies and misdemeanors defined. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-1.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1993, c. 538, s. 2. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2: Repealed by Session Laws 1993, c. 538, s. 2.1. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1993, c. 538, s. 3. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.2: Repealed by Session Laws 2003-0378, s. 1, effective August 1, 2003. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.3. Forfeiture of gain acquired through criminal activity. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.4. Punishment for conspiracy to commit a felony. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.5. Punishment for attempt to commit a felony or misdemeanor. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-2.6. Punishment for solicitation to commit a felony or misdemeanor. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-3. Punishment of misdemeanors, infamous offenses, offenses committed in secrecy and malice, or with deceit and intent to defraud, or with ethnic animosity. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-3.1. Infraction defined; sanctions. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-4. Violation of local ordinances misdemeanor. [RTF] [PDF]

Article 2 - Principals and Accessories. [RTF] [PDF]

- §§ 14-5 through 14-5.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 686, s. 2, effective July 1, 1981. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-5.2. Accessory before fact punishable as principal felon. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-6. Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 686, s. 2, effective July 1, 1981. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7. Accessories after the fact, trial and punishment. [RTF] [PDF]

Article 2A - Habitual Felons. [RTF] [PDF]

- § 14-7.1. Persons defined as habitual felons. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7.2. Punishment. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7.3. Charge of habitual felon. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7.4. Evidence of prior convictions of felony offenses. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7.5. Verdict and judgment. [RTF] [PDF]
- § 14-7.6. Sentencing of habitual felons. [RTF] [PDF]

Chapter 14 table of contents

Anatomy of a statute

Article 4. Subversive Activities.

Chapter-Section. Heading

§ 14-11. Activities aimed at overthrow of government; use of public buildings.

It shall be unlawful for any person, by word of mouth or writing, willfully and deliberately to advocate, advise or teach a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof shall be overthrown or overturned by force or violence or by any other unlawful means. It shall be unlawful for any public building in the State, owned by the State of North Carolina, any political subdivision thereof, or by any department or agency of the State or any institution supported in whole or in part by State funds, to be used by any person for the purpose of advocating, advising or teaching a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof should be overthrown by force, violence or any other unlawful means. (1941, c. 37, s. 1.)

§ 14-12. Punishment for violations.

Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this Article shall, for the first offense, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and be punished accordingly, and for the second offense shall be punished as a Class H felon. (1941, c. 37, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1, c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 11; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

History note

§ 14-12.1. Certain subversive activities made unlawful.

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) By word of mouth or writing advocate, advise or teach the duty, necessity or propriety of overthrowing or overturning the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States by force or violence; or,
- (2) Print, publish, edit, issue or knowingly circulate, sell, distribute or publicly display any book, paper, document, or written or printed matter in any form, containing or advocating, advising or teaching the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means; or,
- (3) Organize or help to organize or become a member of or voluntarily assemble with any society, group or assembly of persons formed to teach or advocate the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means.

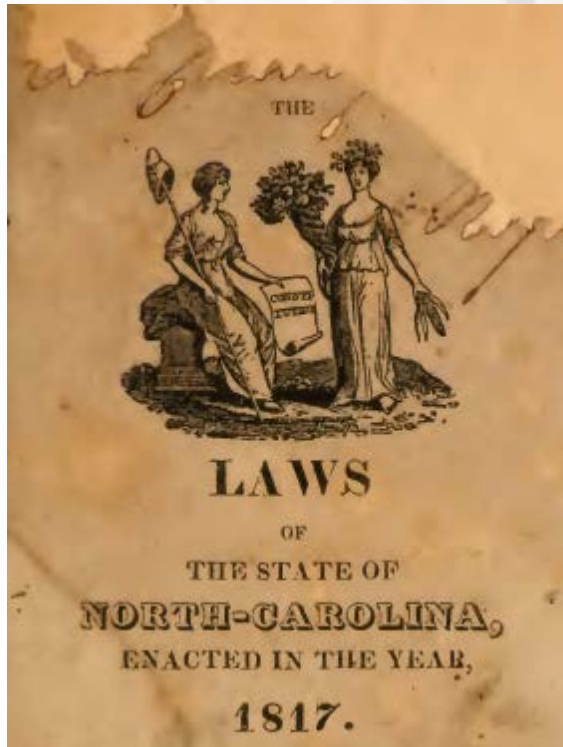
Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished as a Class H felon.

Whenever two or more persons assemble for the purpose of advocating or teaching the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means, such an assembly is unlawful, and every person voluntarily participating therein by his presence, aid or instigation, shall be punished as a Class H felon.

Every editor or proprietor of a book, newspaper or serial and every manager of a partnership or incorporated association by which a book, newspaper or serial is issued, is chargeable with the publication of any matter contained in such book, newspaper or serial. But in every prosecution therefor, the defendant may show in his defense that the matter complained of was published without his knowledge or fault and against his wishes, by another who had no authority from him to make the publication and whose act was disavowed by him as soon as known.

No person shall be employed by any department, bureau, institution or agency of the State of North Carolina who has participated in any of the activities described in this section, and any person now employed by any department, bureau, institution or agency and who has been or is engaged in any of the activities described in this section shall be forthwith discharged. Evidence satisfactory to the head of such department, bureau, institution or agency of the State shall be sufficient for refusal to employ any person or cause for discharge of any employee for the reasons set forth in this paragraph. (1947, c. 1028; 1953, c. 675, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1; c. 179, s. 14.)

Session laws vs. Statutes



- Laws and resolutions passed by the General Assembly
- Arranged in the order in which they became law during session of the legislature
- Each law that has been ratified and signed is “chaptered”
- Session law chapters often confused with General Statute chapters

Session law citation form:

- 1941-37
- 1941 ch.37
- 1941 S.L.37

Anatomy of a statute

Article 4. Subversive Activities.

§ 14-11. Activities aimed at overthrow of government; use of public buildings.

It shall be unlawful for any person, by word of mouth or writing, willfully and deliberately to advocate, advise or teach a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof shall be overthrown or overturned by force or violence or by any other unlawful means. It shall be unlawful for any public building in the State, owned by the State of North Carolina, any political subdivision thereof, or by any department or agency of the State or any institution supported in whole or in part by State funds, to be used by any person for the purpose of advocating, advising or teaching a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof should be overthrown by force, violence or any other unlawful means. (1941, c. 37, s. 1.)

§ 14-12. Punishment for violations.

Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this Article shall, for the first offense, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and be punished accordingly, and for the second offense shall be punished as a Class H felon. (1941, c. 37, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1, c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 11; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

History note

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It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) By word of mouth or writing advocate, advise or teach the duty, necessity or propriety of overthrowing or overturning the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States by force or violence; or,
- (2) Print, publish, edit, issue or knowingly circulate, sell, distribute or publicly display any book, paper, document, or written or printed matter in any form, containing or advocating, advising or teaching the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means; or,
- (3) Organize or help to organize or become a member of or voluntarily assemble with any society, group or assembly of persons formed to teach or advocate the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means.

Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished as a Class H felon.

Whenever two or more persons assemble for the purpose of advocating or teaching the doctrine that the government of the United States or a political subdivision of the United States should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means, such an assembly is unlawful, and every person voluntarily participating therein by his presence, aid or instigation, shall be punished as a Class H felon.

Every editor or proprietor of a book, newspaper or serial and every manager of a partnership or incorporated association by which a book, newspaper or serial is issued, is chargeable with the publication of any matter contained in such book, newspaper or serial. But in every prosecution therefor, the defendant may show in his defense that the matter complained of was published without his knowledge or fault and against his wishes, by another who had no authority from him to make the publication and whose act was disavowed by him as soon as known.

No person shall be employed by any department, bureau, institution or agency of the State of North Carolina who has participated in any of the activities described in this section, and any person now employed by any department, bureau, institution or agency and who has been or is engaged in any of the activities described in this section shall be forthwith discharged. Evidence satisfactory to the head of such department, bureau, institution or agency of the State shall be sufficient for refusal to employ any person or cause for discharge of any employee for the reasons set forth in this paragraph. (1947, c. 1028; 1953, c. 675, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1; c. 179, s. 14.)

Statutory History in Practice

Method One: Run Through Session Law

- Locate statute – look at notes, hasn't changed since enacted in 1941

§ 14-11. Activities aimed at overthrow of government; use of public buildings.

It shall be unlawful for any person, by word of mouth or writing, willfully and deliberately to advocate, advise or teach a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof shall be overthrown or overturned by force or violence or by any other unlawful means. It shall be unlawful for any public building in the State, owned by the State of North Carolina, any political subdivision thereof, or by any department or agency of the State or any institution supported in whole or in part by State funds, to be used by any person for the purpose of advocating, advising or teaching a doctrine that the government of the United States, the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision thereof should be overthrown by force, violence or any other unlawful means.

(1941, c. 37, s. 1.)

§ 14-12. Punishment for violations.

Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this Article shall, for the first offense, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and be punished accordingly, and for the second offense shall be punished as a Class H felon. (1941, c. 37, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5, 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1, c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 11; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

Statutory History in Practice

Method Two: Superseded Statutes

- Pre-1943
 - Compiled ~every 20 years
 - Look at compilation, then session laws
- Post-1943
 - Consisted of bound volumes updated by annual or biennial cumulative supplements.
 - Supplements only contained text of laws that were actually changed in intervening years
 - Volumes occasionally recompiled and re-published with all changes noted in supplements
 - Formats and update methods have changed over time

Statutory history

- Patron wants 1987 law
 - Bound volume published in 1983
 - No changes between 1981 and 1993, so use 1983 volume
- Patron wants 1980 law
 - 1975 bound volume, 1977, 1979 supplements.
 - Use 1979 supp

§ 14-12. Punishment for violations.

Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this Article shall, for the first offense, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and be punished accordingly, and for the second offense shall be punished as a Class H felon. (1941, c. 37, s. 2; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1, c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 11; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(e).)

Where to find Superseded Statutes?

- Government and Heritage Library
- Supreme Court of North Carolina
- North Carolina Legislative Library
- Academic Law Libraries
 - All in state law libraries
 - Many out of state law libraries have them in microfiche

Questions?



Legislative History: Step by Step

Follow legislative process in reverse - intent



Step 6: Governors papers, etc...

Step 5: Study Commission reports

Step 4: Committee minutes

Step 3: Floor debates

Step 2: Journal/online bill histories

Step 1: Session laws

Step One: Legislative History

Session laws – complete run for statutes

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

**Session
law title**

SESSION LAW 2005-74
SENATE BILL 116

Bill number

AN ACT TO ADOPT THE VENUS FLYTRAP AS THE OFFICIAL CARNIVOROUS PLANT OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Venus flytrap is a small flowering perennial plant that grows in boggy areas of the Southeastern United States; and
Whereas, the Venus flytrap is unique in that it is a carnivorous plant characterized by leaves with hinged lobes that spring shut when stimulated by insects; and
Whereas, the Venus flytrap is native to the Coastal Plain of North Carolina and is legally protected by the State as a species of special concern; and
Whereas, the Venus flytrap deserves to be adopted as the official carnivorous plant of the State of North Carolina because it is a mysterious and wonderful natural resource;
Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

"§ 145-22. State carnivorous plant.

The Venus flytrap (*Dionaea muscipula*) is adopted as the official carnivorous plant of the State of North Carolina."

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

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 1st day of June, 2005.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue
President of the Senate

s/ James B. Black
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley
Governor

Approved 10:16 a.m. this 7th day of June, 2005

Ratification date

Preamble

Step Two: Legislative History

- Journal/online bill histories
 - Early journals at www.archive.org
 - Use bill number to find:
 - Date legislation was introduced
 - Sponsor
 - Committee to which it was assigned
 - Follow bill in the originating chamber
 - Bill number will stay the same when it crosses over to the other chamber

Example of House Bill

<http://ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookUp/BillLookUp.pl?Session=1995&BillID=hb955>

House Bill 955 / S.L. 1995-731

1995-1996 Session

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Text	Fiscal Note	Status:
Edition 1 [HTML]	-	RATIFIED CH.0731 on 06/21/1996
Edition 2 [HTML]	-	
Edition 3 [HTML]	-	
SL 1995-731 [HTML]	-	

Sponsors
Primary: Stephen Wood;
Co: N/A

Attributes:
Public; Text has changed;

History

Date	Chamber	Action
04/12/1995	House	Referred to Committee on Education
05/09/1995	House	REPTD FAV AS AMENDED
05/09/1995	House	CAL PURSUANT RULE 36(A)
05/09/1995	House	PLACED ON CAL FOR 05-10
05/10/1995	House	AMEND ADOPTED #1-3
05/10/1995	House	AMEND FAILED #4
05/10/1995	House	AMEND ADOPTED #5
05/10/1995	House	PASSED 2ND & 3RD READING
05/15/1995	Senate	REC FROM HOUSE
05/25/1995	Senate	Referred to Committee on Education/Higher Education
06/01/1995	Senate	REPTD FAV COM SUBSTITUTE
06/01/1995	Senate	COM SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED
06/01/1995	Senate	PLACED ON CAL FOR 06-06
06/06/1995	Senate	PASSED 2ND & 3RD READING
06/08/1995	House	REC TO CONCUR S COM SUB
06/08/1995	House	PLACED ON CAL FOR 06-12
06/12/1995	House	FAILED CONCUR IN COM SUB
06/15/1995	House	CONF COM APPOINTED
06/20/1995	Senate	CONF COM APPOINTED
06/21/1996	House	CONF REPORT ADOPTED
06/21/1996	Senate	CONF REPORT ADOPTED
06/21/1996	House	RATIFIED CH.0731

Step Three: Legislative History



- Floor debates
 - Limited availability
 - Senate: 1977 – current
In tape/CD format
 - House: 2009 – current
- <http://ncleg.net/Audio/Audio.html>

Step Four: Legislative History

- Committee Meetings
 - Available at Legislative Library
 - Many are summary minutes
 - Some have legislative analyst reports or presentations attached
 - Can get clues for further research from who attended meetings

Step Five: Study reports

Article 25. Public Transportation Authorities.

§ 160A-575. Title.

This Article shall be known and may be cited as the "North Carolina Public Transportation Authorities Act." (1977, c. 465; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1247, s. 45.)

§ 160A-576. Definitions.

As used in this Article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Authority" means a body corporate and politic organized in accordance with the provisions of this Article for the purposes, with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth.
- (2) "Governing body" means the board, commission, council or other body, by whatever name it may be known, in which the general legislative powers of the municipality are vested.
- (3) "Municipality" means any county, city, or town of this State, and any other political subdivision, public corporation, authority, or district in this State, which is or may be authorized by law to acquire, establish, construct, enlarge, improve, maintain, own, and operate public transportation systems.
- (4) "Municipality's chief administrative official" means the county manager, city manager, town manager, or other person, by whatever title he shall be known, in whom the responsibility for the municipality's administrative duties is vested.
- (5) "Public transportation" means transportation of passengers whether or not for hire by any means of conveyance, including but not limited to a street railway, elevated railway or guideway, subway, motor vehicle or motor bus, either publicly or privately owned and operated, holding itself out to the general public for the transportation of persons within the territorial jurisdiction of the authority, including charter service.
- (6) "Public transportation system" means, without limitation, a combination of real and personal property, structures, improvements, buildings, equipment, vehicle parking or other facilities, and rights-of-way, or any combination thereof, used or useful for the purposes of public transportation. (1977, c. 465; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1247, s. 45.)

§ 160A-577. Creation; membership.

A municipality may, by resolution or ordinance, create a transportation authority, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "authority." It shall be a body corporate and politic. It shall consist of up to 11 members as determined by the governing body of the municipality.

Members of the authority shall reside within the territorial jurisdiction of the authority as hereinafter set out. They shall be appointed by the governing body of the municipality. The terms of the members shall be fixed by the governing body. Appointments to fill vacancies occurring during the regular terms shall be made by the governing body. The appointments of all members shall run until their successors are appointed and qualified.

The members of the authority shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from the membership of the authority. They shall also elect a secretary who may, or may not, be a member of the authority.

A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members present at a meeting of the authority shall be required to constitute action of the authority. Members of the authority shall receive such compensation, if any, as may be fixed by the governing body of the municipality. (1977, c. 465; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1247, s. 45.)

§ 160A-578. Purpose of the authority.

The purpose of the authority shall be to provide for a safe, adequate and convenient public transportation system for the municipality creating the authority and for its immediate environs, through the granting of franchises, ownership and leasing of terminals, buses and other transportation facilities and equipment, and otherwise through the exercise of the powers and duties conferred upon it. (1977, c. 465; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1247, s. 45.)

Step Five: Legislative History

- Study Commission Reports

- List of reports -

<http://nclegnet/library/Collections/studies/studies.html>

- Most are available at GHL

LOCAL MASS TRANSIT : Report to the 1977 General Assembly of North Carolina -- Legislative Research Commission: Committee on Local Mass Transit [01/01/1977]

HE 309 .N8 N6 1977

MOTOR FUEL PRICING STUDY COMMISSION : Report to the 1993 General Assembly of North Carolina -- Motor Fuel Pricing Study Commission [12/30/1992]

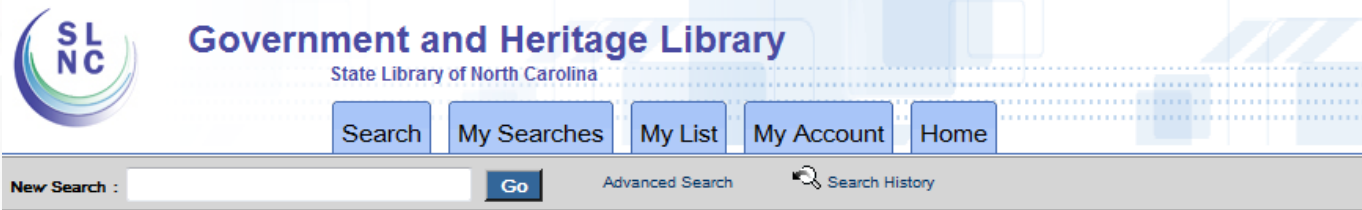
KFN 7680 .M67 A25 1993 (2 c.)

MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAMS : Report to the 1985 General Assembly of North Carolina -- Legislative Research Commission: Committee on Motor Vehicle Inspections [01/01/1985]

KFN 7697.4 .N8 1985

Step Five-A: Other studies

- Third party studies



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Government and Heritage Library website. On the left is the logo for the State Library of North Carolina (SLNC). To the right of the logo is the text "Government and Heritage Library" and "State Library of North Carolina". Below this are five navigation buttons: "Search", "My Searches", "My List", "My Account", and "Home". At the bottom of the navigation bar is a search input field labeled "New Search :", a "Go" button, and links for "Advanced Search" and "Search History".

Report on a survey of the organization and administration of the state government in North Carolina /

Title:

Report on a survey of the organization and administration of the state government in North Carolina / submitted to Governor O. Max Gardner, by Institute for Government Research of the Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C., 1930.

Author: [Brookings Institution. Institute for Government Research.](#)

Publisher: [Washington, D.C. : Brookings Institution, 1930]

Description: xviii, 323 p. : 2 diag. (1 fold.) ; 23 cm.

Format: Text

Subjects: [State governments.](#)
[North Carolina--Politics and government.](#)

Contributor(s): [Seidemann, Henry P.](#)

Notes: "This survey was made under the immediate direction of Mr. Henry P. Seidemann"--P. vii.
The survey was requested by Governor Gardner of North Carolina.

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The Standard.

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

SENATE.

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 1860.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock, a. m.
Prayer by Rev. Dr. Mason.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.
Mr. Brown presented a series of resolutions passed at a meeting of citizens of Caswell, recommending the arming of the State and the call of a Convention, desiring a conference of the Southern States, and expressing devotion to a Constitutional Union.

Mr. Brown then addressed the Senate at some length, which will be seen in another column.

Mr. Barringer presented the proceedings of, and a memorial from, a meeting of citizens of Cabarrus county, stating that if guarantees were not speedily given us by the North, our connection with them should be severed, regardless of consequences; stating further, that dissolution was inevitable.

Mr. Barringer said, that as other Senators had in presenting like memorials made remarks, he would also submit some observations on the character of the meeting which passed these resolutions. He said that it had been said that Senators had manufactured public opinion for their constituents. The Senator from Rowan had thrown out this intimation more than once. This was not so in his case; he knew nothing of this meeting until several days after it was held, but was glad to find that his constituents were supporting him in the positions he had taken; that this was no partisan meeting; that Cabarrus was a unit in this matter; that twenty-five men could not be found in that county opposed to the sentiments set forth in these resolutions. The Senator hoped that in these matters all party distinctions should be ignored. He thought the Senators from Caswell, Richmond and Guilford should lead young America in the defence of their rights. He said that he was a pure and simple federalist; that his county had always been a federal county, and supported federal measures and men.

Mr. Brown proceeded to reply to Mr. Barringer,

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Created by Jennifer Davison, Steve Case and Cathy Martin

The North Carolina State Government Publications Collection has the digital versions of the Session Laws of North Carolina from 1817 to 2000. They were digitized as part of the [Ensuring Democracy through Digital Access grant](#). Session Laws are also available from the [General Assembly's web site](#). The print versions of the Session Laws are also available for use at the Government and Heritage Library, call number Z2 1:

What are the Session Laws? They are all the ratified (agreed upon) bills and resolutions in a given session of the North Carolina General Assembly, which is our state legislature, arranged in the order in which they became law. They are published in the official Session Laws of North Carolina volumes. From 1975-2005, Executive Orders from the Governor were also included in each volume. Each volume has a subject index.

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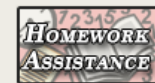
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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

A legislative history is a compilation of documents which were produced during the process of a bill becoming a law. Insofar as legislative history reveals legislative intent, it may aid courts and agencies in determining questions of statutory construction.

Federal Overview

During the process of a bill becoming a public law, Congress produces an extensive collection of documents that comprise the legislative history of the law. The most important of these documents include:

1. variations in the text of the bill between introduction and passage;
2. hearings by Congressional committees;
3. reports of Congressional committees;
4. debates on the floor of Congress;
5. Presidential messages upon approval or veto.

Descriptions of each of these items, their relative weights, and the tools used in compiling them can be found in standard texts on legal research, such as Morris L. Cohen, *How to Find the Law* (9th ed., West 1989).

<http://www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/copyright/library/leghist/llh2011.html>

Questions/Contact

Reference inquires

Slnc.reference@ncdcr.gov

Ref Desk: 919-807-7450

Website: statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl

Access Services

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919-807-7466

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