

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE BILL 363

Short Title: Indian Land in Trust.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Sutton; Barefoot, Bonner, Lucas, and Yongue.

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Referred to: Military, Veterans and Indian Affairs.

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March 1, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION OF INDIAN  
2 AFFAIRS TO HOLD LAND IN TRUST FOR STATE-RECOGNIZED INDIAN  
3 TRIBES.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 143B-405 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 143B-405. North Carolina State Commission of Indian Affairs – purposes for**  
8 **creation.**

9 The purposes of the Commission shall be to deal fairly and effectively with Indian  
10 affairs; to bring local, State, and federal resources into focus for the implementation or  
11 continuation of meaningful programs for Indian citizens of the State of North Carolina;  
12 to provide aid and protection for Indians as needs are demonstrated; to prevent undue  
13 hardships; to hold land in trust for the benefit of State-recognized Indian tribes; to assist  
14 Indian communities in social and economic development; and to promote recognition of  
15 and the right of Indians to pursue cultural and religious traditions considered by them to  
16 be sacred and meaningful to Native Americans."

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 143B-406 reads as rewritten:

18 "**§ 143B-406. North Carolina State Commission of Indian Affairs – duties; use of**  
19 **funds.**

20 It shall be the duty of the Commission to study, consider, accumulate, compile,  
21 assemble and disseminate information on any aspect of Indian affairs; to investigate  
22 relief needs of Indians of North Carolina and to provide technical assistance in the  
23 preparation of plans for the alleviation of such needs; to confer with appropriate  
24 officials of local, State and federal governments and agencies of these governments, and  
25 with such congressional committees that may be concerned with Indian affairs to  
26 encourage and implement coordination of applicable resources to meet the needs of  
27 Indians in North Carolina; to cooperate with and secure the assistance of the local, State  
28 and federal governments or any agencies thereof in formulating any such programs, and

1 to coordinate such programs with any programs regarding Indian affairs adopted or  
2 planned by the federal government to the end that the State Commission of Indian  
3 Affairs secure the full benefit of such programs; to act as trustee for any interest in real  
4 property that may be transferred to the Commission for the benefit of State-recognized  
5 Indian tribes; to review all proposed or pending State legislation and amendments to  
6 existing State legislation affecting Indians in North Carolina; to conduct public hearings  
7 on matters relating to Indian affairs and to subpoena any information or documents  
8 deemed necessary by the Commission; to study the existing status of recognition of all  
9 Indian groups, tribes and communities presently existing in the State of North Carolina;  
10 to establish appropriate procedures to provide for legal recognition by the State of  
11 presently unrecognized groups; to provide for official State recognition by the  
12 Commission of such groups; and to initiate procedures for their recognition by the  
13 federal government."

14         **SECTION 3.** The Commission of Indian Affairs may adopt rules to  
15 implement the provisions of this act.

16         **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.