

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 588

Short Title: Adopt Official NC Potato Festival. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Owens.

Referred to: Agriculture, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

March 16, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ADOPT THE ALBEMARLE POTATO FESTIVAL AS THE OFFICIAL  
3 POTATO FESTIVAL OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, North Carolina's northeast region has been home of the Albemarle Potato  
5 Festival, now known as the North Carolina Potato Festival, for 24 years; and

6 Whereas, of the 16,000 acres statewide used for potato cultivation, the northeast  
7 region of the Albemarle contains 12,000 of those acres; and

8 Whereas, the economic impact of potato farming is at least 13 to 16 million dollars  
9 annually in the northeast region; and

10 Whereas, the festival showcases the Albemarle area's major potato producing  
11 counties, with Pasquotank County being the largest producer in the State; and

12 Whereas, the festival entertainment, street fair, water activities, and evening dance  
13 draw attention throughout the northeast region; and

14 Whereas, the tourism industry flourishes during the North Carolina Potato Festival,  
15 benefiting the economy of not only the northeast region but also the entire State; Now,  
16 therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

20 "**§ 145-30. State potato festival.**

21 The Albemarle Potato Festival is adopted as the official potato festival of the State of North  
22 Carolina."

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

