

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 680

Sponsors: Representatives Graham and Pierce (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

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

April 7, 2011

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING THE HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE TO
2 PRESERVE THE CULTURE AND CUSTOMS OF INDIAN CHILDREN TO FURTHER
3 STUDY ISSUES OR MATTERS IMPACTING THE PRESERVATION OF CUSTOMS
4 AND CULTURE OF INDIAN CHILDREN.

5 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

6 **SECTION 1.** The House Select Committee on the Preservation of Culture and
7 Customs of Indian Children, authorized by Section 2.12 of S.L. 2009-574, is reestablished. The
8 Committee shall consist of nine members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives as follows:

- 10 (1) Four members from the House of Representatives, one of which shall be a
11 Native American.
- 12 (2) One member from the State Commission on Indian Affairs.
- 13 (3) One member from the Child Welfare Services Section of the Division of
14 Social Services, Department of Health and Human Services.
- 15 (4) One member to be selected by the American Indian Mothers, Inc.
- 16 (5) One member from the Cherokee tribe.
- 17 (6) One member from a State-recognized tribe.

18 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one representative as
19 chair. Vacancies of the Committee shall be filled by the same appointing authority that made
20 the initial appointment. The Committee shall meet on the call of the chair. A quorum of the
21 Committee shall be a majority of its members.

22 **SECTION 2.** The Committee shall examine any issues or matters which would
23 impact the preservation of the customs and culture of Indian children who are not covered
24 under the ICWA and who are the subject of legal proceedings in State courts, including, but not
25 limited, to adoption, custody, and visitation. The House Select Committee may continue to
26 study the following:

- 27 (1) Current State laws applicable to family-related legal proceedings and their
28 impact on retention of the cultural heritage of child members of Indian
29 tribes.
- 30 (2) Guidelines for local departments of social service agencies that would
31 implement the same or similar policies and practices that are applicable to
32 Indian children under federal law.
- 33 (3) The creation of a State council or commission, to include members of Indian
34 tribes, State and local social services agencies, the judiciary, and other
35 appropriate officials to recommend policies and procedures to the General
36 Assembly.



1 (4) Any other matter that is relevant to promoting the preservation of the
2 customs and culture of Indian children who are the subject of legal
3 proceedings in State courts.

4 **SECTION 3.** While in the discharge of its official duties, the Committee may
5 exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.
6 Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as
7 provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate. With the prior approval of the
8 Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and
9 clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The House of Representatives shall assign
10 clerical staff to the Committee. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or
11 consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Committee may meet in the
12 Legislative Building or Legislative Office Building and may meet at various locations around
13 the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

14 **SECTION 4.** The Committee shall submit a final report to the 2012 Regular
15 Session of the 2011 General Assembly and may submit interim reports as it deems necessary.
16 The Committee shall terminate upon filing its final report or upon the convening of the 2012
17 Regular Session of the 2011 General Assembly, whichever comes first.

18 **SECTION 5.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.