

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 425  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/30/17  
Third Edition Engrossed 4/6/17  
Senate State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 6/14/18

Short Title: State Woolly Worm Festival. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 22, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT DESIGNATING THE WOOLLY WORM FESTIVAL IN BANNER ELK AS THE  
STATE'S OFFICIAL WOOLLY WORM FESTIVAL.

Whereas, since 1978, an annual Woolly Worm Festival has been held in the Town of  
Banner Elk, which is located in Avery County; and

Whereas, each year the Woolly Worm Festival welcomes 20,000 people to the  
community to make family memories; and

Whereas, in 2007, the Woolly Worm Festival was named one of the top 10 fall  
festivals in North America by the Society of American Travel Writers; and

Whereas, in the 40 years of the Woolly Worm Festival, more than \$1,400,000 has  
been raised to make life better for the children of Avery County; and

Whereas, the winning woolly worm will predict the upcoming winter weather. The  
13 segments of the woolly worm are the best predictors of the weather for the 13 weeks of winter;  
and

Whereas, establishing the Official Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk will serve as  
a great marketing and promotional tool for Banner Elk and Avery County; 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:

**"§ 145-50. State Woolly Worm Festival.**

The Woolly Worm Festival, held the third weekend of October of every year in the Town of  
Banner Elk in Avery County, is adopted as the official Woolly Worm Festival of the State of  
North Carolina."

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

