

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2925

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area in North Carolina, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2003

Mr. BALLANCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area in North Carolina, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Northeastern North  
5        Carolina Heritage Area Study Act of 2003”.

6        **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

7        The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with  
8        appropriate State historic preservation officers, State his-

1 torical societies, and North Carolina’s Northeast Partner-  
2 ship, and other appropriate agencies shall conduct a study  
3 regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the  
4 study area described in section 3 as the Northeastern  
5 North Carolina Heritage Study Area. The study shall in-  
6 clude analysis, documentation, and determination regard-  
7 ing whether the study area—

8           (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and  
9           cultural resources that together represent distinctive  
10          aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition,  
11          conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and  
12          are best managed through partnerships among pub-  
13          lic and private entities and by combining diverse and  
14          sometime noncontiguous resources and active com-  
15          munities;

16          (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and  
17          folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

18          (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-  
19          serve natural, historic, cultural, or scenic features;

20          (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-  
21          cational opportunities;

22          (5) contains resources important to the identi-  
23          fied theme or themes of the study area that retain  
24          a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpre-  
25          tation;

1           (6) includes residents, business interests, non-  
2           profit organizations, and local and State govern-  
3           ments that are involved in the planning, have devel-  
4           oped a conceptual financial plan that outlines the  
5           roles of all participants including the Federal Gov-  
6           ernment, and have demonstrated support for the  
7           concept of a national heritage area;

8           (7) has a potential management entity to work  
9           in partnership with residents, business interests,  
10          nonprofit organizations, and local and State govern-  
11          ments to develop a national heritage area consistent  
12          with continued local and State economic activity;  
13          and

14          (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-  
15          ported by the public.

16 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARIES OF THE STUDY AREA.**

17          The study area referred to in section 2 shall be com-  
18          prised of the counties of Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Cho-  
19          wan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde,  
20          Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell,  
21          and Washington, North Carolina.

22 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

23          Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which  
24          funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary  
25          of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources

1 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
2 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on  
3 the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the  
4 study.

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