

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

H

1

HOUSE BILL 971*

Short Title: Funds/Johnson C. Smith University.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Barnhill, Cunningham, Balmer, Diggs, Easterling, Foster, Grimmer, and McLaughlin.

Referred to: Education.

March 31, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE RESTORATION OF
2 BIDDLE MEMORIAL HALL, JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY.
3

4 Whereas, Biddle Memorial Hall was built in 1883 to serve as the main
5 building for a college for black persons established in Charlotte in 1867; and

6 Whereas, Biddle Memorial Hall is a Romanesque Revival style building of
7 monumental scale, and the finest surviving Victorian structure in Charlotte; and

8 Whereas, Biddle Memorial Hall continues to serve as the administration
9 building for Johnson C. Smith University, and is the most prominent building on the
10 campus; and

11 Whereas, Biddle Memorial Hall is designated as a Charlotte-Mecklenburg
12 County Historic property and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in
13 1975; and

14 Whereas, Johnson C. Smith University has raised over one million dollars
15 (\$1,000,000) and Biddle Memorial Hall has undergone exterior stabilization and partial
16 restoration during 1987 and 1988; Now, therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
19 Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, the sum of four hundred
20 thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the 1989-90 fiscal year, to be used for completing the
21 second phase of the restoration of Biddle Memorial Hall at Johnson C. Smith
22 University, and for retrofitting its structure to meet current building codes, including the
23 installation of new electrical and plumbing systems, heating and air conditioning

1 systems, and making it accessible to handicapped persons through the installation of an
2 elevator.

3 Sec. 2. The activities funded by this appropriation shall be performed in
4 accordance with the standards and guidelines for such activities established by the
5 Division of Archives and History, and shall be conducted under the professional
6 supervision of that agency.

7 Sec. 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.