

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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SENATE BILL 1270*

Short Title: Lower Haw River State Natural Area.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Kinnaird; Bingham, Clodfelter, Dorsett, Garwood, and Lucas.

Referred to: Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.

May 24, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ADDITION OF THE LOWER HAW RIVER STATE
NATURAL AREA TO THE STATE PARKS SYSTEM, AS RECOMMENDED BY
THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION.

Whereas, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of North Carolina states that it shall be a proper function of the State of North Carolina to acquire and preserve park, recreational, and scenic areas, and in every other appropriate way to preserve as a part of the common heritage of this State, its open lands and places of beauty; and

Whereas, the 1987 General Assembly enacted the State Parks Act, which declares that the State of North Carolina offers unique archaeological, geologic, biological, scenic, and recreational resources, and that these resources are part of the heritage of the people of the State, which should be preserved and managed by the people for their use and for the use of their visitors and descendants; and

Whereas, the Lower Haw River in Chatham County is considered nationally significant for its biological resources including several rare species and possesses biological, scenic, and recreational resources of statewide significance; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The General Assembly authorizes the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to add the Lower Haw River State Natural Area to the State Parks System as provided by G.S. 113-44.14(b).

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