

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE BILL 371

Short Title: UNC-Pembroke/Historically American Indian U. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Sutton, Pierce, Yongue (Primary Sponsors); Alexander, B. Allen, Blackwood, Faison, Harrell, Hill, McAllister, Michaux, and Wilkins.

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

February 24, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DESIGNATING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT
2 PEMBROKE AS NORTH CAROLINA'S HISTORICALLY AMERICAN INDIAN
3 UNIVERSITY.
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5 Whereas, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke was originally
6 established in 1887 as Croatan Normal School in response to a petition from the
7 American Indian people in the Robeson County area; and

8 Whereas, the General Assembly changed the name in 1911 to the Indian
9 Normal School of Robeson County and again in 1913 to the Cherokee Indian Normal
10 School of Robeson County; and

11 Whereas, in 1926, the Board of Trustees added a two-year normal program
12 beyond high school, and phased out elementary education; and

13 Whereas, the first 10 diplomas were awarded in 1928, when the State
14 accredited the school as a "standard normal school", and additional college courses were
15 later added with the first college degrees conferred in 1940; and

16 Whereas, in 1941, the General Assembly changed the name to Pembroke
17 State College for Indians, and the school's curricula further expanded; and

18 Whereas, in 1945, enrollment was further expanded to include American
19 Indians from other tribes, and in 1949 the name was shortened to Pembroke State
20 College; and

21 Whereas, in the wake of the 1950s and 1960s civil rights and school
22 desegregation laws, the General Assembly changed the name in 1969 to Pembroke State
23 University and made the school a regional university; and

24 Whereas, three years later, in 1972, the General Assembly established the
25 16-campus University of North Carolina System, with Pembroke State University as
26 one of its constituent institutions; and

1 Whereas, on July 1, 1996, Pembroke State University officially became the
2 University of North Carolina at Pembroke; and

3 Whereas, The University of North Carolina System currently consists of 16
4 university campuses, five of which are designated as Historically Black Colleges and
5 Universities, but the University of North Carolina at Pembroke has never been officially
6 acknowledged as a Historically American Indian University; Now, therefore,
7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** The University of North Carolina at Pembroke is officially
9 designated as North Carolina's Historically American Indian University.

10 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 116-13.1(b) reads as rewritten:

11 "(b) Equity in University Improvements. – The Board of Governors of The
12 University of North Carolina shall continue to study and monitor any inequities in
13 funding for capital improvements and facilities needs which may still exist on North
14 Carolina's Public Historically Black Colleges and Universities and North Carolina's
15 Historically American Indian University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke,
16 beyond the funding of the projects provided for in this act, and shall report annually to
17 the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on any remaining
18 inequities found, including recommendations as to how those inequities should be
19 addressed."

20 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.