

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

S

1

SENATE BILL 1002*

Short Title: Maritime Museum Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Thomas.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 24, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR EXPANSION OF THE NORTH
3 CAROLINA MARITIME MUSEUM.

4 Whereas, the North Carolina Maritime Museum system, with museums in
5 Beaufort, Roanoke Island, and Southport, in 2004 served more than 225,500 visitors,
6 including more than 10,000 children in class groups; and

7 Whereas, the North Carolina Maritime Museum system is a vital part of the
8 tourism industry in the State; and

9 Whereas, the North Carolina Maritime Museum system has outgrown its
10 20-year-old facilities in Beaufort; and

11 Whereas, in 1997 and 1998, the General Assembly granted the Friends of the
12 Maritime Museum funds with which to acquire land in Beaufort for a 30-acre museum
13 annex to be deeded to the State when completed; and

14 Whereas, the Friends of the Maritime Museum has begun a campaign to raise
15 \$2 million from private sources across the State to complete the first phase of the
16 museum's expansion by 2006; Now, therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Friends of
19 the North Carolina Maritime Museum, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, the sum of two
20 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year for
21 capital improvements and operating expenses. These funds shall be allocated as
22 follows:

- 23 (1) \$2,000,000 for capital improvements of the Maritime Museum in
24 Beaufort.
25 (2) \$500,000 for operating expenses needed to expand the North Carolina
26 Maritime Museum system.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.