

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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**SENATE BILL 884
House Committee Substitute Favorable 5/19/05**

Short Title: State Traditional Pottery Birthplace.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 23, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE SEAGROVE AREA AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF
3 NORTH CAROLINA TRADITIONAL POTTERY.

4 Whereas, the art of crafting traditional pottery in North Carolina began
5 around 1750 in the Seagrove area, which today includes portions of Randolph,
6 Chatham, Moore, and Montgomery Counties; and

7 Whereas, this craft has been carried on for 200 years and, in some cases, by
8 people who represent the eighth and ninth generation of potters in their families; and

9 Whereas, early families of the Seagrove area associated with North Carolina
10 traditional pottery included the Chriscoe, Cole, Craven, Luck, McNeill, Owen, and
11 Teague families; and

12 Whereas, the pottery craft is a tradition that encompasses both aesthetic and
13 utilitarian elements in its design; and

14 Whereas, the annual Seagrove Pottery Festival has become the premier
15 traditional pottery event in the State; and

16 Whereas, during the festival, thousands of people are drawn to pottery
17 displays, demonstrations of pottery making, and the pottery auction; and

18 Whereas, plans have been made to establish the Museum of North Carolina
19 Traditional Pottery to preserve and perpetuate the history and tradition of North
20 Carolina traditional pottery; and

21 Whereas the North Carolina Pottery Museum was established in 1998 to
22 promote an awareness of the history and heritage of North Carolina pottery making
23 traditions; and

24 Whereas, Seagrove is considered the State's pottery capital; and

25 Whereas, it is fitting to recognize the Seagrove area as the birthplace of North
26 Carolina traditional pottery; Now, therefore,

27 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

28 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a
29 new section to read:

1 **"§ 145-22. State birthplace of traditional pottery.**

2 The Seagrove area, including portions of Randolph, Chatham, Moore, and
3 Montgomery Counties, is designated as the official location of the birthplace of North
4 Carolina traditional pottery."

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