

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN ACT TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO
CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING THE
NORTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA HERITAGE AREA IN NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, the sixteen counties in North Carolina's Northeast Region have many natural, historic, cultural and recreations resources that represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition;

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Northeast Commission, with the support of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Tourism, Film & Sports Development; the North Carolina Arts Council; and the Region's local chambers of commerce, tourism professionals, arts councils and community and economic development organizations, has spearheaded the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Initiative;

WHEREAS, The Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Initiative has joined the communities in the Northeast Region in an regional effort to strengthen and revitalize their economies through heritage tourism development;

WHEREAS, the House Resolution introduced by Congressman G.K. Butterfield requests that the Secretary of Interior conduct a study to determine the feasibility of designation of the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area;

WHEREAS, this prestigious designation would provide the mechanism to preserve the Northeast Region's nationally significant landscape, create a new economic development and tourism tool for our region, develop new partnerships, and introduce Northeastern North Carolina to its rightful place in the hearts and minds of all Americans.

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of tourism to our local and regional economies and that designation as a National Heritage Area will provide national recognition to our counties and Region, as well as provide federal and private funding to preserve and promote our historic, cultural, natural and recreational resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Dare County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the North Carolina Congressional Delegation support legislation for the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area Initiative and voice their support to members of the House Committee on Resources for passage.

This 18th day of June, 2007.

Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk