

Chapter 145.

State Symbols and Other Official Adoptions.

§ 145-1. State flower.

The dogwood is hereby adopted as the official flower of the State of North Carolina. (1941, c. 289.)

§ 145-2. State bird.

The cardinal is hereby declared to be the official State bird of North Carolina. (1943, c. 595.)

§ 145-3. State tree.

The pine is hereby adopted as the official State tree of the State of North Carolina. (1963, c. 41.)

§ 145-4. State shell.

The Scotch bonnet is hereby adopted as the official State shell of the State of North Carolina. (1965, c. 681.)

§ 145-5. State mammal.

The gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) is hereby adopted as the official State mammal of the State of North Carolina. (1969, c. 1207.)

§ 145-6. State saltwater fish.

The channel bass (red drum) is hereby adopted as the official State saltwater fish of the State of North Carolina. (1971, c. 274.)

§ 145-7. State insect.

The honeybee is hereby adopted as the official State insect of the State of North Carolina. (1973, c. 55.)

§ 145-8. State stone.

The emerald is hereby adopted as the official State precious stone of the State of North Carolina. (1973, c. 136, s. 1.)

§ 145-9. State reptile.

The turtle is adopted as the official State reptile of the State of North Carolina, and the eastern box turtle is designated as the emblem representing the turtles inhabiting North Carolina. (1979, c. 154, s. 1.)

§ 145-10. State rock.

Granite is adopted as the official State rock of the State of North Carolina. (1979, c. 906, s. 1.)

§ 145-10.1. State beverage.

Milk is hereby adopted as the official State beverage of the State of North Carolina. (1987, c. 347.)

§ 145-11. State historical boat.

The Shad Boat is adopted as the official State historical boat of the State of North Carolina. (1987, c. 366.)

§ 145-12. State language.

(a) Purpose. English is the common language of the people of the United States of America and the State of North Carolina. This section is intended to preserve, protect and strengthen the English language, and not to supersede any of the rights guaranteed to the people by the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Carolina.

(b) English as the Official Language of North Carolina. English is the official language of the State of North Carolina.

(c) Expired. (1987, c. 480, c. 877, s. 1.1.)

§ 145-13. The State dog.

The Plott Hound is adopted as the official dog of the State of North Carolina. (1989, c. 773, s. 1.)

§ 145-14. The State Military Academy.

Oak Ridge Military Academy, in Oak Ridge, North Carolina, as long as it remains a military academy is adopted as the official military academy of the State of North Carolina. (1991, c. 728, s. 1.)

§ 145-15. State tartan.

The Carolina Tartan is adopted as the official tartan of the State of North Carolina. (1991, c. 85, s. 1.)

§ 145-16. State Watermelon Festivals.

(a) The Hertford County Watermelon Festival is adopted as the official Northeastern North Carolina Watermelon Festival. The Hertford County Watermelon Festival shall be observed annually during the last four days of the first week in August.

(b) The Fair Bluff Watermelon Festival in Columbus County is adopted as the official Southeastern North Carolina Watermelon Festival. The Fair Bluff Watermelon Festival shall be observed annually during mid-July.

(c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to obligate the General Assembly to appropriate funds to implement the provisions of this act.

(d) Nothing in this act shall be construed to obligate Hertford County or Columbus County to expend funds for the purposes of this act. (1993, s. 212, s. 1.)

§ 145-17. State vegetable.

The sweet potato is adopted as the official vegetable of the State of North Carolina. (1995, c. 521, s. 3.)

§ 145-18. State fruit and State berries.

(a) The official fruit of the State of North Carolina is the Scuppernong grape (*Vitis* genus).

(b) The official red berry of the State is the strawberry (*Fragaria* genus).

(c) The official blue berry of the State is the blueberry (*Vaccinium* genus). (2001-488, s. 1.)

§ 145-19. State International Festival.

Folkmoot USA is adopted as the official international festival of the State of North Carolina. (2003-315, s. 1.)

§ 145-20. State wildflower.

The Carolina Lily (*Lilium michauxii*) is adopted as the official wildflower of the State of North Carolina. (2003-426, s. 1.)

§ 145-21. State Aviation Hall of Fame and Museum and State Museum of Aviation.

The Asheboro Municipal Airport is designated as the official location of the North Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame and the North Carolina Aviation Museum. The Wilmington International Airport is designated as the official location of the North Carolina Museum of Aviation. (2003-363, s. 1.)

§ 145-22. State carnivorous plant.

The Venus flytrap (*Dionaea muscipula*) is adopted as the official carnivorous plant of the State of North Carolina. (2005-74, s. 1.)

§ 145-23. State birthplace of traditional pottery.

The Seagrove area, including portions of Randolph, Chatham, Lee, Moore, and Montgomery Counties, is designated as the official location of the birthplace of North Carolina traditional pottery. (2005-78, s. 1; 2006-264, s. 70.)

§ 145-24. Official State dances.

- (a) Clogging is adopted as the official folk dance of North Carolina.
- (b) Shagging is adopted as the official popular dance of North Carolina. (2005-218, s. 1.)

§ 145-25. State Christmas tree.

The Fraser fir (*Abies fraseri*) is adopted as the official Christmas tree of the State of North Carolina. (2005-387, s. 1.)

§ 145-26. State freshwater trout.

The Southern Appalachian strain of brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) is adopted as the official freshwater trout of the State of North Carolina. (2005-387, s. 2.)

§ 145-27. State Collard Festival.

The Ayden Collard Festival is adopted as the official collard festival of the State of North Carolina. (2007-28, s. 1.)

§ 145-28. State food festival.

The Lexington Barbecue Festival is adopted as the official food festival of the Piedmont Triad Region of the State of North Carolina. (2007-533, s. 1.)

§ 145-29. State community theater.

The Thalian Association in Wilmington, North Carolina, is adopted as the official community theater of North Carolina. (2007-68, s. 1.)

§ 145-30. State potato festival.

The Albemarle Potato Festival is adopted as the official Irish potato festival of the State of North Carolina. (2009-24, s. 1.)