

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE BILL 1162

Short Title: Establish Liberty Day.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Russell; and Goodwin.

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

April 12, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT ESTABLISHING LIBERTY DAY IN THE STATE OF NORTH
3 CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, as Americans, we enjoy our liberties as a result of the documents
5 that our founding fathers created, those documents being the Declaration of
6 Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights; and

7 Whereas, James Madison was a contributing author of the Virginia Plan, the
8 model and the basis of discussion for the forming of a new constitution, in the
9 constitutional convention of 1787, which new constitution established our new form of
10 government, replacing the Articles of Confederation; and

11 Whereas, James Madison kept written records of the Debates in the Federal
12 Convention of 1787, which debates and compromises finally produced the Constitution
13 of the United States; and

14 Whereas, these records were not made public until the last signer died, who
15 was James Madison, and his wife Dolley Madison, sold the records to the United States
16 government, and they were published around 1840; and

17 Whereas, James Madison wrote many of the newspaper articles which
18 outlined the reasons that the states should endorse the new constitution; and

19 Whereas, these articles became known as the Federalist Papers, and were
20 co-written with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay and still stand as some of the best
21 arguments for our form of government, a representative republic; and

22 Whereas, James Madison served in the United States House of
23 Representatives from 1789 until 1797, during which time he introduced into Congress
24 the Bill of Rights, which was ratified by the states in 1791; and

25 Whereas, James Madison was Secretary of State from 1801 until 1809, and
26 President of the United States from 1809 until 1817; and

27 Whereas, March 16th is the anniversary of the birth of James Madison; Now,
28 therefore,

1 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

2 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 103 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a
3 new section to read:

4 "**§ 103-11. Liberty Day.**

5 The sixteenth day of May of each year is designated as Liberty Day in North
6 Carolina."

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