

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1280

Short Title: Glencoe Historic Bridge Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Bordsen.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 3, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RESTORATION OF A HISTORIC
2 BRIDGE AT THE ALAMANCE COUNTY PARK AT GLENCOE.

3 Whereas, James H. Holt and William E. Holt, sons of textile pioneer Edwin
4 M. Holt, founded Glencoe Mill in 1880 and built the Glencoe Mill Village between
5 1880 and 1882; and

6 Whereas, the Glencoe Mill Village in Alamance County is now a rare
7 surviving example of the mill villages that were once prevalent throughout the South in
8 the 19th century; and

9 Whereas, Glencoe is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is
10 being considered for a National Historic Landmark designation; and

11 Whereas, the Glencoe Mill closed in 1954, and the houses were all vacated in
12 subsequent decades; and

13 Whereas, in 1997, Preservation North Carolina, a nonprofit organization,
14 purchased the Glencoe property consisting of approximately 100 acres of land along the
15 Haw River and including the original brick mill complex, 32 houses, the mill office and
16 store building, and two water towers, which are all in a state of extreme disrepair; and

17 Whereas, the private revitalization of houses in the Glencoe Mill Village has
18 taken place and will serve as a model for preserving an entire mill village as an
19 economic redevelopment project; and

20 Whereas, the private rehabilitation of the mill complex is pending completion
21 of a Brownsfields Agreement with the State of North Carolina, and

22 Whereas, Textile Heritage Museum, Inc., has purchased the mill office and
23 store building to fulfill its mission of telling the story of the southern textile industry
24 and preserving the cultural heritage of southern mill villages; and

25 Whereas, Alamance County and the City of Burlington have made
26 contributions toward the redevelopment of the Glencoe Mill Village by assisting with
27 the provision of water and sewer utilities at the site; and
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1 Whereas, Alamance County has acquired land along the Haw River for the
2 purpose of developing a public park that promotes heritage education, heritage tourism,
3 environmental education, conservation, eco-tourism, and recreation; and

4 Whereas, a 1910s historic truss bridge (Stokes #35) was removed by the
5 North Carolina Department of Transportation from the north side of Hanging Rock
6 State Park in Stokes County and moved to Glencoe where, once restored, it will connect
7 footpaths with an eight-acre island in the Haw River; and

8 Whereas, the Alamance County's park at Glencoe will serve as a connector in
9 the Mountains-to-the-Sea Trail as well as an accompaniment to the new Haw River
10 State Park; and

11 Whereas, Glencoe will serve as an important tourist designation for
12 Alamance County and will have the potential of a \$20 million economic impact on the
13 local economy; Now, therefore,

14 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

15 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
16 Department of Cultural Resources the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the
17 2007-2008 fiscal year to restore the historic truss bridge (Stokes #35) in the park at
18 Glencoe in Alamance County.

19 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.