

LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA

CLLR-2024-0215-02

DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 2024

“LUMBEE HOLIDAY”

WHEREAS, The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Lumbee Tribe”) is a recognized American Indian Tribe of the State of North Carolina, subject to the Constitution of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Tribal Constitution”) and its inherent powers and self-government; and,

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution delegates all legislative authority to the Tribal Council of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Tribal Council”); and,

WHEREAS, The Preamble to the Tribal Constitution charges the Tribal Government to “...preserve for all time the Lumbee way of life and community, promoting the educational, cultural, social, and economic well-being of Lumbee people...”; and,

WHEREAS, Nearly a quarter of a millennium ago, the Cheraw ancestors of the present-day Lumbee Indians settled on the banks of a river they called Lumbee, seeking refuge to escape colonial encroachment; and,

WHEREAS, Dominated by White leadership, the Lumbee people were forced to assimilate into the white man’s way of living through farming, education, and worship and other ways of life; and,

WHEREAS, White leadership deprived the Lumbee people of equal opportunities in education, business, politics, economics, religion, and other means of leadership; and,

WHEREAS, The Lumbee people experienced prejudice and stereotypes during the 19th century as well as today; and,

WHEREAS, The Tribe voted by referendum on February 2, 1952 with 2,169 votes for the adoption of the traditional ancestral name of the river, Lumbee, as the official name of the people of the dark water; and,

WHEREAS, The Lumbee Tribe worked diligently to create and establish self-determination, renewed identity, traditions and culture for effective and profound social, physical, emotional, economical, intellectual, and spiritual well-being to create a well-balanced life for all Lumbee; and

WHEREAS, The Lumbee possess a strong connection to the river, Mother Earth, and The Creator; and,

WHEREAS, The first Native American college in the United States was established in 1887 through Lumbee leadership, now known as the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP); and,

WHEREAS, The Lumbee participate and engage in Lumbee Homecoming as a celebratory event to demonstrate their family connections, pride, identity, tradition, and culture through parades, pow-

wows, and booths displaying Native American jewelry, pottery, clothing, and others items to promote their Indian heritage; and,

WHEREAS, Henry Berry Lowerie, Lumbee legendary hero, along with others, waged war for ten years between 1864-1874 against injustices and corruption committed against their family members and other Lumbee by the Confederacy and local militia in Robeson County; and,


WHEREAS, January 13, 1958, the Lumbee united together with furious determination and great intensity and forced and removed the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) from their nightly meeting at Hayes Pond in Maxton, N.C. whose purpose was to intimidate and attempt to bring fear to the Lumbee people; and,

WHEREAS, With great pride, The Lumbee demonstrate careers and leadership as doctors, lawyers, teachers, nurses, police, ministers, executives, principals, engineers, social workers, directors, superintendents, politicians, military leaders, managers, CEO's, and other essential leadership; and,


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Lumbee Tribal Council hereby adopts February 2 as a tribal holiday to celebrate the vibrant, rich, and ancestral name Lumbee, given to the dark water that hid our people, and later to us as a Tribe, by our ancestors, as it continues to connect us to each other and our tribal homeland.

CERTIFICATION

THIS **CLLR-2024-0215-02**, "LUMBEE HOLIDAY" ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE TWENTY-ONE (21) MEMBER TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA WHERE 19 MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, CONSTITUTING A QUORUM, THIS THE 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024 BY A VOTE OF 19 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTENTION(S), AND 0 RECUSE(S).


ATTEST: DEWEY J. MCNEILL
Speaker, Tribal Council of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina

2-15-24
DATE


ATTEST: NANCI LOCKLEAR
Secretary, Tribal Council of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina

2/15/24
DATE

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADOPT

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19 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTENTION(S) 0 RECUSE(S)

District 1:	Billy Oxendine	ABSENT
District 2:	Graylen Mitchell	YES
	Gerald Goolsby	YES
District 3:	Harold Smith	YES
	Pam Hunt	YES
District 4:	Jody Bullard	YES
District 5:	Wendy Moore	YES
	Carrington Locklear	YES
District 6:	Kristie Hunt	YES
	Larry Chavis	YES
District 7:	Nanci Locklear	YES
	Yvonne Dial	YES
	Rudy Locklear	YES
District 8:	Kathy Hunt	YES
District 9:	Dewey J McNeill	YES
District 10:	Bobby Emanuel	YES
District 11:	Chocajuana Oxendine	YES
District 12:	Josephine Doss	YES
	Larry Soles	ABSENT
District 13:	Alex Baker	YES
District 14:	Homer Fields	YES