



HOUSE BILL 280: Mod Rights/Privileges/Immunities Lumbee Tribe.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 3, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Graham, Pierce	Prepared by:	Billy R. Godwin Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 280 would amend the statute that gives official State recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.*

CURRENT LAW: The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina is given official State recognition under G.S. 71A-3 as an Indian Tribe residing in Robeson "and adjoining counties" and enjoys all of the rights, privileges, immunities, obligations, and duties enjoyed by citizens of the State.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 280 would modify G.S. 71A-3 to:

- Specify that Cumberland, Hoke, and Scotland are those counties adjoining Robeson County where the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina resides.
- Substitute the language providing that the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina enjoys all of the rights, privileges, immunities, obligations, and duties enjoyed by citizens of the State, with language providing that the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina would enjoy all the rights, privileges, and immunities as an American Indian Tribe with a recognized tribal governing body carrying out and exercising substantial governmental duties and powers similar to the State, being recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when the act becomes law.

BACKGROUND: As of February 1, 2019, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina was not one of the 573 Tribal entities recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior.¹

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/02/01/2019-00897/indian-entities-recognized-by-and-eligible-to-receive-services-from-the-united-states-bureau-of-indian-affairs>.

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