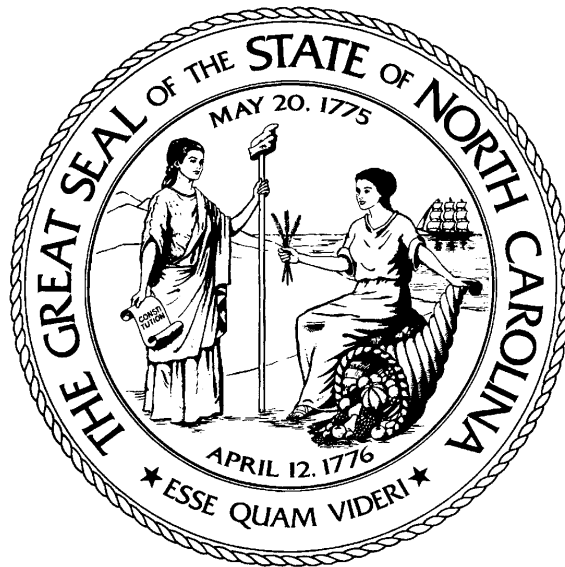


# HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

## VIDEO GAMING



### REPORT TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January, 2003

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STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
RALEIGH, NC 27601



January 24, 2003

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORTH  
CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The House Select Committee on Video Gaming submits to you for your  
consideration its report.

Respectfully submitted,

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Representative Bill T. Culpepper, III

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Representative William C. Owens, Jr.

**House Select Committee on Video Gaming**

## **Membership**

### **Legislative Members**

Representative Bill T. Culpepper, III, Co-Chair  
Representative William C. Owens, Jr., Co-Chair

Representative Gordon P. Allen  
Representative E. Nelson Cole  
Representative W. Pete Cunningham  
Representative Dewey L. Hill  
Representative Howard J. Hunter, Jr.  
Representative W. Franklin Mitchell  
Representative Wilma M. Sherrill  
Representative Ronnie N. Sutton  
Representative Edith D. Warren

### **Public Members**

Bill Brooks  
Sheriff Worth Hill  
James Russell Melton  
Mark N. Poovey

The House Select Committee on Video Gaming was appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives in December 2002, pursuant to his authority under Part XIX of Session Law 2002-180. The Select Committee was charged with studying several issues related to video gaming, including problems with the operation of video gaming machines in the State, the difficulties associated with the enforcement of the video gaming laws, the effect of recent court decisions on the current video gaming laws, and the potential impact a ban on video gaming might have on the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and to report its findings and recommendations.

## **January 24, 2003**

The Committee met for the first time on January 24, 2003. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Representative Bill T. Culpepper, III and the members of the Committee were introduced. Ms. Susan L. Sitze, Committee Counsel, explained the Committee's charge.

Mr. Rodney Johnson, ALE District Supervisor, demonstrated the workings of a video gaming machine and addressed the Committee on some of the problems arising as a result of video gaming machines in North Carolina and some of the difficulties in enforcing the current State laws on video gaming.

Mr. John Aldridge, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, reviewed for the Committee the recent holding of Judge Lacy H. Thornburg, United States District Court Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, in the Helton v. Good case decided in July 2002, and discussed the status and possible implications of that ruling.

The Committee then held discussion on the issues presented and what its recommendations should be. The Committee determined that in light of the late appointment of this Committee and the impending 2003 Session, that they did not have sufficient time or information to make any substantive recommendations.

The Committee decided to recommend that the House Select Committee on Video Gaming be immediately reappointed for the 2003 Session to further study these issues.

The Committee reviewed and adopted its final report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.



**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 2003 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly should immediately reappoint The House Select Committee on Video Gaming.**

The Committee finds that more information and study of these issues is necessary to make specific recommendations regarding video gaming in North Carolina. The Committee believes that The House Select Committee on Video Gaming should be immediately reappointed to continue exploring these issues in order to develop some practical and feasible solutions. The Committee asks that the Speaker retain the current members of the Committee as members.