

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

H

2

HOUSE BILL 672  
Senate Commerce Committee Substitute Adopted 7/9/97

Short Title: County Construction of Forestry Buildings.

(Public)

---

Sponsors:

---

Referred to:

---

March 31, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE CERTAIN FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
NONREVERTING.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Sec. 27.18 of Chapter 18 of the 1996 Second Extra Session Laws  
reads as rewritten:

"PILOT PRIVATIZATION PROJECT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FORESTRY  
BUILDINGS

Sec. 27.18. Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Environment,  
Health, and Natural Resources, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)  
for the 1996-97 fiscal year shall be placed in a nonreverting reserve within the  
Department, and the Department shall, as part of a pilot project, enter into a contract with  
a county to construct a forestry headquarters building in that county. The contract shall  
provide: that the county may contract with a private for-profit or nonprofit firm for the  
construction of a building at least 2,300 square feet in size to consist of, at a minimum, a  
storage unit and an office area and to include a surfaced driveway and parking area and  
utility services; that the county shall submit the design plans and specifications to the  
Department of Insurance, the Office of State Construction, and the Secretary of

1 Environment, Health, and Natural Resources for review and approval; that the State shall  
2 not lease any State-owned land to the county for the building prior to the Department of  
3 Insurance, the Office of State Construction, and the Secretary of Environment, Health,  
4 and Natural Resources approving the design plans and specifications; that the Department  
5 of Insurance, the Office of State Construction, and the Secretary of Environment, Health,  
6 and Natural Resources shall inspect and review the project during construction and at the  
7 completion of construction to ensure that the building is suitable for its intended use and  
8 to determine whether the building is suitable for acquisition by the State; that in carrying  
9 out their responsibilities under this provision, all parties shall act in good faith; that the  
10 Department shall not reimburse the county from the reserve until the Department of  
11 Insurance, the Office of State Construction, and the Secretary of Environment, Health,  
12 and Natural Resources determine that the building is suitable for acquisition by the State;  
13 that the State shall lease to the county any land the State owns that is needed for siting the  
14 building and its appurtenances, and, prior to the Department reimbursing the county from  
15 the reserve, the county shall transfer to the State for no additional consideration such  
16 property, the building, and its appurtenances; and that, prior to the Department  
17 reimbursing the county from the reserve, the county shall transfer to the State for no  
18 additional consideration any land the county owns that is needed for siting the building  
19 and its appurtenances, the building, and its appurtenances. It is the intent of the General  
20 Assembly that the General Assembly shall not appropriate additional funds for this pilot  
21 project and that the county in which the forestry headquarters building is to be located  
22 shall be responsible for all costs in excess of one hundred fifty thousand dollars  
23 (\$150,000), including those costs related to the county purchasing any new land  
24 necessary for siting the building and its appurtenances and those costs related to  
25 constructing and equipping this building and its appurtenances. No later than December  
26 15, ~~1996, 1997,~~ and again no later than April 15, ~~1997, 1998,~~ the Department shall report  
27 to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal  
28 Research Division on the progress of this pilot project and shall include in both reports  
29 the Department's findings and recommendations on the desirability and feasibility of  
30 expanding this project to the construction of forestry buildings in other counties."

31 Section 2. This act becomes effective June 30, 1997.