



1 maintenance. The Commission may study and consider public-private partnerships for  
2 school construction and facility ownership, sale lease-back arrangements, private and  
3 commercial financing arrangements, design standards for school facilities that may  
4 facilitate alternative financing techniques, alternative local revenue sources for  
5 financing school facilities, the use of real estate investment trusts, State and local  
6 construction bond pools, and any other financing issues deemed pertinent by the  
7 Commission.

8 **SECTION 1.(d)** Expenses of Members. – Members of the Commission shall  
9 receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1,  
10 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

11 **SECTION 1.(e)** Consultants and Other Staff. – The Commission may hire  
12 consultants to provide research, staff support, and information about school financing in  
13 other states to the Commission, in accordance with G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative  
14 Services Office, with the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, shall  
15 also assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Commission in its work.

16 **SECTION 1.(f)** Cooperation by Government Agencies. – The Commission  
17 may call upon any department, agency, institution, or officer of the State or any political  
18 subdivision of the State for facilities, data, or other assistance. All State departments and  
19 agencies, local governments, and their subdivisions shall cooperate with the  
20 Commission and, upon request, shall furnish the Commission and its staff any  
21 information in their possession or available to them.

22 **SECTION 1.(g)** Meetings During Legislative Session. – The Commission  
23 may meet during a regular or extra session of the General Assembly.

24 **SECTION 1.(h)** Meeting Location. – The Legislative Services Commission  
25 shall grant adequate meeting space to the Commission in the State Legislative Building  
26 or the Legislative Office Building. The Commission may also meet at various locations  
27 around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

28 **SECTION 1.(i)** Reports. – The Commission shall make an interim report to  
29 the 2005 General Assembly no later than January 31, 2005, and a final report to the  
30 2006 Regular Session of the 2005 General Assembly no later than March 31, 2006. The  
31 final report shall contain recommendations for legislation to implement  
32 recommendations made by the Commission. The interim report may also contain  
33 recommendations for legislation. The Commission shall terminate on March 31, 2006.

34 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General  
35 Assembly the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal  
36 year for the expenses of the Local School Construction Financing Study Commission.  
37 The Commission may also apply for, receive, or accept grants and contributions, subject  
38 to the provisions of G.S. 120-32.03, to support the work of the Commission.

39 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.