

1 throughout the State seeking to win and complete military contracts.
2 Activities of the business assistance center shall include:

- 3 a. Training and mentoring eligible businesses on effectively
4 marketing their products and services to military clients and
5 contracting offices.
6 b. Assisting eligible businesses with any required accreditations
7 and qualifications for government contracting.
8 c. Teaching eligible businesses about federal set-aside programs
9 and how to take advantage of these programs directly or
10 through partnering with other eligible businesses.
11 d. Training and assisting clients with the registration, proposal
12 development and bidding processes related to military
13 contracts.
14 e. Training eligible businesses on legal and regulatory
15 compliance.
16 f. Designing and implementing mentoring programs to facilitate
17 the development of interrelationships between eligible
18 businesses.
19 g. Forecasting the need for and assisting eligible businesses in
20 obtaining advanced certifications and accreditations and
21 advanced manufacturing skills and technologies.
22 h. Assisting eligible businesses in advising military clients on
23 retaining project funding.
24 i. Working with Small Business Centers throughout the State to
25 carry out these activities on a statewide basis.

26 (2) The development and maintenance of an Internet-based system to
27 match the knowledge, skills, and abilities of active-duty military
28 personnel, veterans, and their families throughout the State with the
29 needs of North Carolina businesses.

30 (3) The study of community resources and existing business capacity to
31 meet the current and future needs of the military and the development
32 of proposals for further developing community resources and
33 developing or recruiting new businesses to meet those needs.

34 (4) The marketing of the services provided by the Military Business
35 Center.

36 (5) The planning and implementation of the development of an industrial
37 park to house military contractors.

38 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North
39 Carolina Electronics and Information Technologies Association the sum of two hundred
40 thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to develop, in conjunction
41 with MCNC, a proposal for the development and operation of a homeland security
42 business incubator. The North Carolina Electronics and Information Technologies
43 Association shall make a report on this proposal to the 2005 General Assembly no later
44 than February 28, 2005.

1 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 66-58(c)(3a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to
2 read:

3 "(3b) The operation of a military business center by a community college.
4 For the purposes of this subdivision, the term 'military business center'
5 means a facility that serves to coordinate and facilitate interactions
6 between the United States Armed Forces; military personnel, veterans,
7 and their families; and private businesses."

8 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.