

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**HOUSE BILL 561**

Short Title: Amend Charlotte Charter. (Local)

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Sponsors: Representatives Alexander, Carney, Cunningham (Primary Sponsors);  
and Earle.

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Referred to: Local Government I.

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March 20, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE TO ADOPT A  
COMMERCIAL NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article III of Chapter 8 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte,  
being S.L. 2000-26, as amended, is amended by adding a new section to read:

"Sec. 8.89. **Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy.** The City may adopt a  
commercial nondiscrimination policy that provides the City will not purchase goods or  
services from businesses that discriminate against vendors, suppliers, subcontractors, or  
commercial customers. For purposes of this policy, the City may define discrimination  
to include acts based upon race, gender, religion, national origin, ethnicity, age, or  
disability. Notwithstanding any other provision of law governing the City's purchase of  
goods or services, including G.S. 143-129 and G.S. 143-131, the City may: (i) consider  
a business's efforts to comply with the City's commercial nondiscrimination policy in  
awarding City contracts; (ii) in its discretion, refuse to award a contract to a business  
that has failed to comply with the policy; and (iii) for a period of up to two years,  
disqualify businesses that violate the policy from bidding for or participating in City  
contracts directly or indirectly whether as vendors, service providers, contractors, or  
subcontractors."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.