

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2005**

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**SENATE DRS15324-LM-174 (05/15)**

Short Title: NC Minority Support Center Funds. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Weinstein, Atwater and Dannelly.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA MINORITY  
3 SUPPORT CENTER TO FURTHER A STATEWIDE PROGRAM OF LENDING  
4 FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP AND WEALTH CREATION IN DISADVANTAGED  
5 COMMUNITIES.

6       Whereas, the North Carolina Minority Support Center has been recognized as  
7 a national and international model for creating banking opportunities for the unbanked  
8 and for individuals in low-wealth communities; and

9       Whereas, the North Carolina Minority Support Center has been certified a  
10 Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) by the United States Treasury  
11 Department and has leveraged federal funding in excess of \$7,000,000 to serve  
12 disadvantaged communities; and

13       Whereas, the North Carolina Minority Support Center was featured in the  
14 2004 Ford Foundation Annual Report, and one of its members was recognized by The  
15 White House Partnership for Prosperity, the United States Treasury Department, and the  
16 World Council of Credit Unions; and

17       Whereas, the North Carolina Minority Support Center provides assistance to  
18 the seven branch offices of the Generations Community Credit Union and to the five  
19 branch offices of the Latino Community Credit Union; and

20       Whereas, 75% of the Generations and Latino Community Credit Union  
21 members are low-income and did not have a bank account at a traditional financial  
22 institution prior to joining a credit union; and

23       Whereas, the North Carolina Minority Support Center and its affiliates aim to  
24 reduce predatory practices in vulnerable communities by providing financial services to  
25 over 60,000 people across the State; and

1           Whereas, since 1991, the North Carolina Minority Support Center and its  
2 affiliates have been working to reduce crime and community decay through secure  
3 banking, homes, jobs, and wealth creation; and

4           Whereas, the State values and supports the diverse minority communities  
5 served by the North Carolina Minority Support Center for their significant contributions  
6 to the State's economy, particularly in the area of economic development; and

7           Whereas, the larger minority communities in the State, African-American,  
8 Latino/Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Asian-Americans, have a total  
9 buying power of over \$47,000,000,000, and it is expected to grow to over more than  
10 \$69,000,000,000 in the next five years; and

11           Whereas, more than 953,000 minority citizens over the age of 16 are  
12 members of the State's labor force, and that number is projected to exceed 2.4 million  
13 by the year 2009; and

14           Whereas, there are over 61,000 minority-owned businesses in the State, and  
15 they employ more than 73,000 people and generate over \$6,700,000,000 in revenue; and

16           Whereas, more than 1,200 jobs in the State have been created through  
17 business loans; and

18           Whereas, more than 3,500 people each year have benefited from access to  
19 bilingual financial counseling and financial literacy education; and

20           Whereas, a \$13,000,000 investment in the North Carolina Minority Support  
21 Center will allow the Latino Community Credit Union and the Generations Community  
22 Credit Union to make \$100,000,000 in loans and expand financial services to  
23 low-income and unbanked communities in the State; Now, therefore,  
24 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

25           **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
26 Department of Commerce the sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the  
27 2006-2007 fiscal year for the North Carolina Minority Support Center. The Center shall  
28 allocate one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) to the Generations  
29 Community Credit Union and one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) to  
30 the Latino Community Credit Union.

31           **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
32 Department of Commerce the sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) for the  
33 2006-2007 fiscal year for the North Carolina Minority Support Center. The Center shall  
34 allocate the funds based upon market demands to the Generations Community Credit  
35 Union and the Latino Community Credit Union to assist them in making one hundred  
36 million dollars (\$100,000,000) in loans and expanding financial services to low-income  
37 and unbanked communities in the State.

38           **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2006.