

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE BILL 807

Short Title: Economic Development Coordination. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hartsell; and Bingham.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 23, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR BETTER OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION OF
3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 120 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a
6 new Article to read:

"Article 12O.

"Joint Legislative Economic Development Oversight Committee.

9 **§ 120-70.130. Creation and membership of Joint Legislative Economic**
10 **Development Oversight Committee.**

11 The Joint Legislative Economic Development Oversight Committee is established.
12 The Committee consists of 12 members as follows:

- 13 (1) Six members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
14 the Senate; and
15 (2) Six members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
16 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

17 Terms on the Committee are for two years and begin on the convening of the
18 General Assembly in each odd-numbered year, except the terms of the initial members,
19 which begin on appointment and end on the day of the convening of the 2007 General
20 Assembly. Members may complete a term of service on the Committee even if they do
21 not seek reelection or are not reelected to the General Assembly, but resignation or
22 removal from service in the General Assembly constitutes resignation or removal from
23 service on the Committee.

24 A member continues to serve until a successor is appointed. A vacancy shall be
25 filled by the officer who made the original appointment.

26 **§ 120-70.131. Purpose and powers of Committee.**

27 (a) The Joint Legislative Economic Development Oversight Committee shall
28 examine, on a continuing basis, economic growth and development issues and strategies
29 in North Carolina in order to make ongoing recommendations to the General Assembly

1 on ways to promote cost-effective economic development initiatives. In this
2 examination, the Committee may:

- 3 (1) Study the budgets, programs, and policies of the Department of
4 Commerce, the North Carolina Partnership for Economic
5 Development, and other State, regional, and local entities involved in
6 economic development.
- 7 (2) Analyze legislation from other states regarding economic
8 development.
- 9 (3) Analyze proposals produced by the Economic Development Board.
- 10 (4) Study any other matters that the Committee considers necessary to
11 fulfill its mandate.

12 (b) The Committee may make interim reports to the General Assembly on
13 matters for which it may report to a regular session of the General Assembly. A report
14 to the General Assembly may contain any legislation needed to implement a
15 recommendation of the Committee.

16 **"§ 120-70.132. Organization of Committee.**

17 (a) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives shall each designate a cochair of the Joint Legislative Economic
19 Development Oversight Committee. The Committee shall meet upon the joint call of the
20 cochairs.

21 (b) A quorum of the Committee is seven members. Only recommendations,
22 including proposed legislation, receiving at least six affirmative votes may be included
23 in a Committee report to the General Assembly. While in the discharge of its official
24 duties, the Committee has the powers of a joint committee under G.S. 120-19 and
25 G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.

26 (c) The cochairs of the Committee may call upon other knowledgeable persons
27 or experts to assist the Committee in its work.

28 (d) Members of the Committee shall receive subsistence and travel expenses as
29 provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate. The Committee may contract
30 for consultants or hire employees in accordance with G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative
31 Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign
32 professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. Upon the direction of the
33 Legislative Services Commission, the Supervisors of Clerks of the Senate and of the
34 House of Representatives shall assign clerical staff to the Committee. The expenses for
35 clerical employees shall be borne by the Committee."

36 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 120-70.106 reads as rewritten:

37 **"§ 120-70.106. Purpose and powersPurpose, powers, and duties of Committee.**

38 (a) The Revenue Laws Study Committee may:

- 39 (1) Study the revenue laws of North Carolina and the administration of
40 those laws.
- 41 (2) Review the State's revenue laws to determine which laws need
42 clarification, technical amendment, repeal, or other change to make the
43 laws concise, intelligible, easy to administer, and equitable.

- 1 (3) Call upon the Department of Revenue to cooperate with it in the study
2 of the revenue laws.
- 3 (4) Report to the General Assembly at the beginning of each regular
4 session concerning its determinations of needed changes in the State's
5 revenue laws.

6 These powers, which are enumerated by way of illustration, shall be liberally
7 construed to provide for the maximum review by the Committee of all revenue law
8 matters in this State.

9 (b) The Committee may make interim reports to the General Assembly on
10 matters for which it may report to a regular session of the General Assembly. A report
11 to the General Assembly may contain any legislation needed to implement a
12 recommendation of the Committee. When a recommendation of the Committee, if
13 enacted, would result in an increase or decrease in State revenues, the report of the
14 Committee must include an estimate of the amount of the increase or decrease.

15 (c) The Committee shall conduct a comprehensive review of each tax
16 expenditure at least once every five years to determine if the tax expenditure is an
17 equitable and efficient means of achieving a State public policy objective and shall
18 report to the General Assembly on the findings of this review. For the purpose of this
19 subsection, the term 'tax expenditure' has the same meaning as in G.S. 105-256. The
20 Committee may stagger the reviews so that not all tax expenditures have to be
21 reevaluated in the same year."

22 **SECTION 2.(b)** The first reviews required under G.S. 120-70.106(c), as
23 enacted by this section, shall be reported to the 2007 General Assembly.

24 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.