May 28, 2008

S 2103. JUDICIAL BRANCH/BUDGET AMENDMENTS. Filed 5/27/08. *TO AMEND THE STATE BUDGET ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE BUDGETARY INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH*.

Creates exemptions for the judicial branch to specified provisions of the State Budget Act in GS Chapter 143C, including provisions (1) requiring the reversion of unexpended, unencumbered appropriations at the end of the fiscal year; (2) limiting the increase in the number of permanent budgeted positions to the percentage rate of change in the state's residential population growth; and (3) requiring new positions or changes in the funding of an existing position to be submitted to the Governor. Requires the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (was, the Governor), in the event of an anticipated state budget deficit, to report a plan for the judicial branch to the General Assembly. Enacts new GS 143C-6-4(i) to allow the Chief Justice to approve overexpenditures and transfers in the judicial branch budget, but imposes some limitations. Effective July 1, 2008.

Intro. by Clodfelter. GS 143C