

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE BILL 360*
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/10/09**

Short Title: Authorize State Bar to Borrow Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 3, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BAR TO BORROW FUNDS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 84-17 reads as rewritten:

"§ 84-17. Government.

The government of the North Carolina State Bar is vested in a council of the North Carolina State Bar referred to in this Chapter as the "Council." The Council shall be composed of a variable number of councilors equal to the number of judicial districts plus 16, the officers of the North Carolina State Bar, who shall be councilors during their respective terms of office, and each retiring president of the North Carolina State Bar who shall be a councilor for one year from the date of expiration of his term as president. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, the North Carolina State Bar may borrow money and may acquire, hold, rent, encumber, alienate, lease, and otherwise deal with real or personal property in the same manner as any private person or corporation, subject only to the approval of the Governor and the Council of State as to the borrowing of money and the acquisition, rental, encumbering, leasing and sale of real property. The Council shall be competent to exercise the entire powers of the North Carolina State Bar in respect of the interpretation and administration of this Article, the borrowing of money, the acquisition, lease, sale, or mortgage of property, real or personal, the seeking of amendments to this Chapter, and all other matters. There shall be one councilor from each judicial district and 16 additional councilors. The additional councilors shall be allocated and reallocated by the North Carolina State Bar every six years based on the number of active members of each judicial district bar according to the records of the North Carolina State Bar and in accordance with a formula to be adopted by the North Carolina State Bar, to insure an allocation based on lawyer population of each judicial district bar as it relates to the total number of active members of the State Bar.

A councilor whose seat has been eliminated due to a reallocation shall continue to serve on the Council until expiration of the remainder of the current term. A councilor whose judicial district is altered by the General Assembly during the councilor's term shall continue to serve on the Council until the expiration of the term and shall represent the district wherein the councilor resides or with which the councilor has elected to be affiliated. If before the alteration of the judicial district of the councilor the judicial district included both the place of residence and the place of practice of the councilor, and if after the alteration of the judicial district the councilor's place of residence and place of practice are located in different districts, the councilor must, not later than 10 days from the effective date of the alteration of the district, notify the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar of an election to affiliate with and represent either the councilor's district of residence or district of practice.



1 In addition to the councilors, there shall be three public members not licensed to practice
2 law in this or any other state who shall be appointed by the Governor. The public members may
3 vote and participate in all matters before the Council to the same extent as councilors elected or
4 appointed from the various judicial districts."

5 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 84-23(d) reads as rewritten:

6 "(d) The Council may acquire, hold, rent, encumber, alienate, lease, and otherwise deal
7 with real or personal property in the same manner as any private person or corporation, subject
8 only to the approval of the Governor and the Council of State as to the acquisition, rental,
9 encumbering, leasing and sale of real property. The Council may borrow money upon its
10 bonds, notes, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness sold through public or private sale
11 pursuant to a loan agreement or a trust agreement or indenture with a trustee, with such
12 borrowing either unsecured or secured by a mortgage on the Council's interest in real or
13 personal property, and engage and contract with attorneys, underwriters, financial advisors, and
14 other parties as necessary for such borrowing, with such borrowing and security subject to the
15 approval of the Governor and the Council of State. The Council may utilize the services of the
16 Purchase and Contract Division of the Department of Administration to procure personal
17 property, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the General
18 Statutes."

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