GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

S SENATE BILL 276*

Short Title:	Enhance Youth Employment Protections. (Public)
Sponsors:	Senators Berger of Franklin; Davis, Foriest, Kinnaird, McKissick, and Nesbitt.
Referred to:	Commerce.
	February 24, 2009
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED	
AN ACT TO ENHANCE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROTECTIONS BY REQUIRING THE	
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR TO REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.	
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:	
S	ECTION 1. Article 2A of Chapter 95 of the General Statutes is amended by
adding a new section to read:	
"§ 95-25.23C. Report on youth employment enforcement activities.	
<u>(a)</u> Fi	ndings. – The General Assembly finds that:
<u>(1</u>	There is an increasing need to protect the educational opportunities of youths
	under age 18 and to prohibit their employment in jobs and under conditions
	that are detrimental to their health and well-being.
<u>(2</u>	Although the statutory protections available for youths under age 18 who are
	employed in this State are comprehensive, those protections are rendered
	meaningless without effective enforcement.

(3)

the following:

- laws and regulations enacted under the Wage and Hour Act.

 (b) Intent. Recognizing that the Department of Labor is the State agency charged with enforcing the Wage and Hour Act as it pertains to youth employment, the General Assembly intends to review the Department's enforcement activities on a regular basis in order to identify
- effective measures for enhancing youth employment protections in this State.

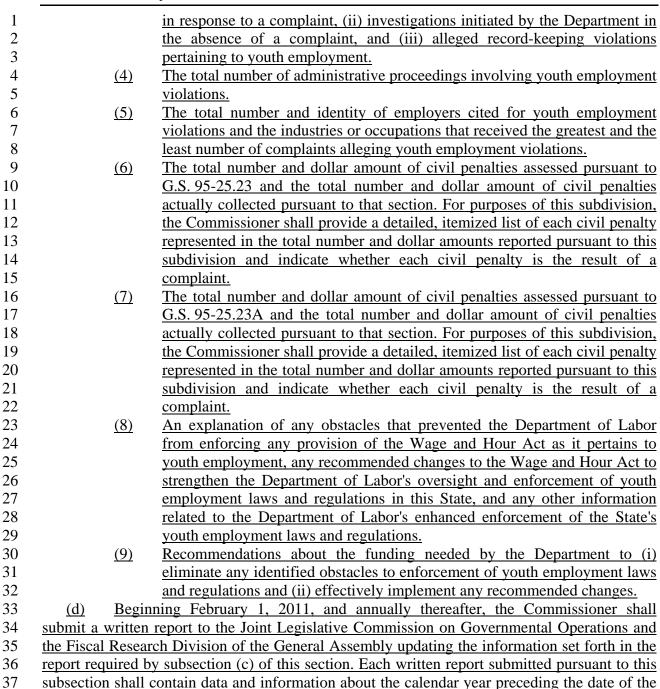
 (c) By February 1, 2010, the Commissioner shall make a written report to the General Assembly on the Department of Labor's investigative, inspection, and enforcement activities under the Wage and Hour Act pertaining to youth employment for the period commencing January 1, 2008, and ending December 31, 2008. The written report shall include at least all of
 - (1) The total number of complaints received by the Department of Labor alleging youth employment violations under the Wage and Hour Act, or any regulations issued under the Wage and Hour Act, or both.

It is in the best interest of the State and its youngest workers to ensure that

North Carolina employers are in full compliance with the youth employment

- (2) The specific types of youth employment violations alleged, and the ages of the youths referenced, in the complaints received by the Department of Labor.
- (3) The total number of investigations conducted by the Department of Labor concerning alleged youth employment violations, the length of the investigations, and the number of investigators assigned to conduct the investigations. For purposes of this subdivision, the Commissioner shall provide a separate analysis of (i) investigations initiated by the Department





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

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last written report."