

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 153

Short Title: Establish General Gov't Oversight Committee. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Cleveland and R. Brown (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform.

February 27, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON
3 GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

7 "Article 34.

8 "Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government.

9 **"§ 120-295. Creation and membership of Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on**
10 **General Government.**

11 (a) The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government 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 the
14 Senate.

15 (2) Six members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of
16 the House of Representatives.

17 (b) Terms on the Committee are for two years and begin on the convening of the
18 General Assembly in each odd-numbered year. Members may complete a term of service on
19 the Committee even if they do not seek reelection or are not reelected to the General Assembly,
20 but resignation or removal from service in the General Assembly constitutes resignation or
21 removal from service on the Committee.

22 (c) A member continues to serve until a successor is appointed. A vacancy shall be
23 filled within 30 days by the officer who made the original appointment.

24 **"§ 120-296. Purpose and powers of Committee.**

25 (a) The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government shall examine,
26 on a continuing basis, the services provided by the departments and agencies set out in this
27 subsection, in order to make ongoing recommendations to the General Assembly on ways to
28 improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of State government services. The Committee
29 has the following powers and duties:

30 (1) Study the programs, organization, operations, and policies of the following
31 agencies:

32 a. Department of Administration.

33 b. Department of State Auditor.

34 c. Department of Cultural Resources.

35 d. Governor's Office.



- 1 e. Housing Finance Agency.
- 2 f. Department of Insurance.
- 3 g. Lieutenant Governor's Office.
- 4 h. Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 5 i. Office of State Personnel.
- 6 j. Department of Revenue.
- 7 k. Department of Secretary of State.
- 8 l. State Board of Elections.
- 9 m. Office of State Budget and Management.
- 10 n. Office of State Controller.
- 11 o. State Ethics Commission.
- 12 p. Department of State Treasurer.
- 13 (2) Review compliance of budget actions directed by the General Assembly.
- 14 (3) Monitor expenditures, deviations, and changes made by the agencies set out
15 in subdivision (a)(1) of this section to the certified budget.
- 16 (4) Review policy changes as directed by law.
- 17 (5) Receive presentations of reports from agencies directed in the law, including
18 audits, studies, and other reports.
- 19 (6) Review any issues that arise during the interim period between sessions of
20 the General Assembly and provide a venue for any of these issues to be
21 heard in a public setting.
- 22 (7) Monitor the quality of services provided by general government agencies to
23 other agencies and the public.
- 24 (8) Identify opportunities for general government agencies to coordinate and
25 collaborate to eliminate duplicative functions.
- 26 (9) Have presentations and reports on any other matters that the Committee
27 considers necessary to fulfill its mandate.

28 (b) The Committee may make reports to the General Assembly. A report to the General
29 Assembly may contain legislation needed to implement a recommendation of the Committee.

30 **"§ 120-297. Organization of Committee.**

31 (a) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
32 Representatives shall each designate a cochair of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
33 General Government. The Committee shall meet upon the joint call of the cochairs.

34 (b) A quorum of the Committee is five members. No action may be taken except by a
35 majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present. While in the discharge of its official
36 duties, the Committee has the powers of a joint committee under G.S. 120-19 and
37 G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.

38 (c) Members of the Committee receive subsistence and travel expenses as provided in
39 G.S. 120-3.1. The Committee may contract for consultants or hire employees in accordance
40 with G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services
41 Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. Upon the direction
42 of the Legislative Services Commission, the Supervisors of Clerks of the Senate and of the
43 House of Representatives shall assign clerical staff to the Committee. The expenses for clerical
44 employees shall be borne by the Committee.

45 (d) The Committee cochairs may establish subcommittees for the purpose of examining
46 issues relating to services provided by particular divisions within the State's general
47 government departments.

48 **"§ 120-298. Reports to Committee.**

49 Whenever a department or agency set out in subdivision (a)(1) of G.S. 120-296 is required
50 by law to report to the General Assembly or to any of its permanent committees or
51 subcommittees on matters affecting the services the department or agency provides, the

1 department or agency shall transmit a copy of the report to the cochairs of the Joint Legislative
2 Oversight Committee on General Government."

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