

March 21, 2007

S 1256. 2007 STUDIES BILL. Filed 3/21/07. *TO PROVIDE FOR STUDIES BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION, STATUTORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, AND OTHER AGENCIES, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS.*

Provides that the Legislative Research Commission may study specified topics; also provides for appointment of committee membership, reporting, and allocation of additional funds. Authorizes the statutory oversight committees and commissions to study a range of topics and report their findings, and provides for allocation of funds. Authorizes per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances for members of other commissions and committees, as well as staffing, the hiring of consultants, and allocation of funds.

Intro. by Rand.

UNCODIFIED

August 1, 2007

S 1256. 2007 STUDIES BILL. Filed 3/21/07. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Expands the topics for studies by the Legislative Research Commission. Lists bills or resolutions that proposed the issue or study and the name of the sponsor where applicable, for reference purposes only. Provides that unless specifically otherwise indicated, the listed bills and resolutions refer to measures introduced in the 2007 General Assembly. Requires that if a study is authorized in the act (the Studies Act of 2007) and in the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2007 (2007 Appropriations Act), the study is to be implemented in accordance with the 2007 Appropriations Act as ratified. In addition to the Legislative Research Commission, adds numerous studies by various commissions, committees, departments, and agencies, as follows:

(1) Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee; (2) Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee; (3) Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee; (4) Joint Legislative Utility Review Committee; (5) Revenue Laws Study Committee; (6) Environmental Review Commission; (7) Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Service Studies; (8) North Carolina Study Commission on Aging; (9) Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology; (10) Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee; (11) Joint Legislative Committee on Domestic Violence; (12) Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina Study the Dedication of One or More Dental Scholarship-Loan Program Slots to Dentists Serving Special Care Populations; (13) Board of Directors of the NC Health Insurance Risk Pool Monitor Methods of Financing the Pool to Ensure a Stable Funding Source; (14) Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Study and Identify Program and Service Needs for Older Adults in Brunswick and Other Counties; (15) DHHS to Study Optimal Placement of Automated External Defibrillators; (16) Coastal Resources Commission Authorized to Implement a Pilot Project to Study the Use of Terminal Groins for Ocean Inlet Stabilization; (17) Commissioner of Insurance, the NC Industrial Commission, and the DHHS, to Jointly Study Creating a System of No-Fault Compensation for Injuries Resulting from Care Provided at Nursing Homes, Homes for the Elderly, Other Long-Term Care Facilities, and assisted Living Facilities; (18) DHHS and the NC Housing Finance Agency to address Gaps in the Housing Continuum; (19) Sentencing and Policy Advisory Committee to Study Reclassifying Certain Misdemeanors to Infractions; (20) Legislative Services Commission to Study the Security of the Legislative Building, Legislative Office Building, and Other Public Buildings; (21) Governor's Crime Commission to Study Expanding the Jurisdiction of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to Include Criminal Acts of Sixteen and Seventeen-Year-olds; (22) Department of Cultural Resources to Study the Preservation of Folk Life Resources; (23) University of North Carolina and Duke University to Study the Need for a Deepwater Research Vessel; (24) Department of Administration to Study Disparity in Awarding State Contracts to Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Businesses; (25) Extends the Joint Legislative Growth Strategies Oversight Commission; (16) Continue the Study of Waterfront Access Issues; and (27) NC Institute of Medicine to Study Evidence-Based Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Creates or authorizes creation of the following new entities for specific studies: (a) the Automobile Insurance Modernization Study Commission; (b) the Joint Legislative Study

Committee on Public School Funding Formulas; and (c) the NC Study Commission on Juvenile Justice.

August 1, 2007

S 1256. 2007 STUDIES BILL. Filed 3/21/07. Senate amendments make the following changes to 2nd edition. Amendment # 1 (1) deletes Early Childhood Programs from the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Studies and (2) authorizes the Director of the Budget, within funds available in any state agency, to use up to \$1.5 million for the Department of Administration study of the disparities in awarding state contracts to minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

Amendment # 2 adds wage disparity to the list of topics to be studied by the Legislative Research Commission, and expands the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee Studies to include the study of the potential for housing minimum-custody offenders in substance abuse treatment facilities; makes technical changes.

August 2, 2007

S 1256. 2007 STUDIES BILL. Filed 3/21/07. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Establishes or authorizes the creation of 25 new entities for specific studies. Modifies the study tasks and topics of the following commissions, committees, departments, and agencies:

- (1) Legislative Research Commission;
- (2) Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee;
- (3) Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee;
- (4) Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee;
- (5) Revenue Laws Study Committee;
- (6) Environmental Review Commission;
- (7) Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee;
- (8) Board of Directors of the NC Health Insurance Risk Pool Monitor Methods of Financing the Pool to Ensure a Stable Funding Source;
- (9) Department of Administration to Study Disparity in Awarding State Contracts to Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Businesses; and the
- (10) Automobile Insurance Modernization Study Commission.

Adds the following study commissions, committees, departments, and agencies:

- (1) Joint Legislative Economic Development Oversight Committee;
- (2) Department of Public Instruction to Study and Identify Various Models Being Utilized to Deliver Educational and Other Services at the High School Level to Children with Disabilities in the State;
- (3) Board of Governors to Study Effectiveness of Teacher Education;
- (4) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to Study Regulation of Hazardous Waste Transfer Facilities;
- (5) Department of Correction to Study Aging Inmate Population;
- (6) State Board of Education to Study Strategies for Modifying Principal and Assistant Principal Compensation so as to Enhance Recruitment and Retention efforts;
- (7) Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to Study All of the Department's County Allocation Formulas;
- (8) DHHS to Study the Special Assistance In-Home Program;
- (9) Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina (BOG of UNC) to Study Minority Faculty and Graduates in Medicine and Dentistry;
- (10) Expand the Scope of the Department of Correction (DOC) Study Regarding Mandatory Mental Health Treatment Programs for Incarcerated Sex Offenders;
- (11) DHHS to Study Related Issues to the Medical Care Commission Adopting Rules Allowing the Issuance of Rated Certificates to Adult Care Homes;
- (12) DHHS to Study Respite Care and Recommend Ways to Improve the Current Respite Care Delivery System;
- (13) DHHS to Study the Feasibility of Requiring that All Vaccinations Used to Carry Out the Provisions of GS 130A-152(A) to be Free from the Preservative Thimerosal;

- (14) University of North Carolina Institute on Aging to Conduct a Study Regarding Public Guardianship Services;
- (15) DENR to Develop a Proposal for a Recycling Program for Fluorescent Lamps;
- (16) NC Courts Commission to Study Excusing Primary Caregivers from Jury Duty;
- (17) Department of Crime Control and Public Safety (DCCPS) to Study the Procedures of Local Law Enforcement and Health Care Facilities When Persons with Dementia or Other Cognitive Impairments Are Reported Missing;
- (18) Department of Cultural Resources to Study the Feasibility of Designating the Nathaniel Macon House a State Historic Site;
- (19) Wildlife Resources Commission to Study Mandatory Boating Safety Education;
- (20) BOG of UNC to Study the Accessibility of Its Facilities to Severely Physically Disable Individuals Seeking Basic Access to Higher Education within the State University System;
- (21) Division of Motor Vehicles to Study Methods to Ensure the Lawful Use of Handicapped Placards, and the Penalty for Violation of the Handicapped Parking Laws of the State;
- (22) NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission to Study the Most Appropriate Penalties for Legislation Making Torture, Enforced Disappearance, and Related Acts Unlawful in NC;
- (23) Department of Justice in Consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to Study the Use of Inhibitors in Methamphetamine Production;
- (24) State Auditor to study the Costs Relating to the Administration of Capital Punishment and the Savings From Repeal;
- (25) Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the State Judicial Council to Study How to Make the Procedure of Petitioning for an Expunction Under GS 15A-146 More Easily Understood and Available to the Public;
- (26) DHHS, AOC, and DCCPS, and SBI Jointly to Study Developing a Data Base for Information Pertaining to Individuals Adjudicated Mentally Incompetent or Involuntarily Committed;
- (27) DENR's Division of Forest resources to Study and Develop Criteria Concerning Burning Bans;
- (28) DOC to Study Safety of Inmate Road Crews;
- (29) NC Utilities Commission to Consider Health and Environmental Impacts in Reaching Least Cost Determination in Electricity Generation; and
- (30) Legislative Services Commission to Contract with Qualified researchers to Study a Legislative Tuition Grant Program for Private School Students.

Deletes the study to authorize the Coastal Resources Commission to implement a pilot project to study the use of terminal groins for ocean inlet stabilization. Provides that if Senate Bill 448 is enacted, Section 17.2, providing for the DHHS to study and identify program and service needs for older adults in Brunswick and other counties, is repealed.

Makes additions, deletions, and corrections of sponsors identified on bills or resolutions that propose the issue or study. Makes technical, conforming, and stylistic changes. Includes sections reserved for future use.

August 2, 2007

S 1256. 2007 STUDIES BILL. Filed 3/21/07. House amendment makes the following changes to 4th edition. Authorizes the Director of the Budget, within funds available in any state agency, to use up to \$1.5 million for the Department of Administration study of the disparities in awarding state contracts to minority-owned and women-owned businesses. Establishes the House Select Study Commission on Annexation Issues and provides guidelines on the tasks and topics of the commission.