

April 22, 2009

**H 1535. STUDY PROJECT GRADUATE.** Filed 4/22/09. *TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE ON PROJECT GRADUATE AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO IMPLEMENT THE STUDY.*

Creates the 12-member Joint Legislative Study Committee on Project Graduate (Committee). States that purpose of the Committee is to identify the number of adults in North Carolina who have credit hours at a state institution of higher education but who have not earned a bachelor's degree. Designates the composition of the Committee to include six members each appointed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. Makes provisions for the operation of the Committee, including the filling of vacancies; staffing, subsistence and travel expenses for members; and contracting for professional, clerical, or consultant services. Directs the Committee to consider initiatives, incentives, and methods to recruit adults back to college to complete a degree, including focusing on Kentucky's Project Graduate. Specifies issues that the Committee may consider regarding assisting state universities in helping targeted students to graduate. Provides that the Committee may make an interim report to the 2009 General Assembly, 2010 Regular Session. Directs the Committee to make its final report to the 2011 General Assembly, with the Committee terminating upon filing the final report or upon convening of the 2011 General Assembly, whichever is earlier.

Appropriates \$25,000 for 2009-10 and \$25,000 for 2010-11 from the General Fund to the General Assembly to be allocated to the Legislative Services Commission and used to fund the work of the Committee.

Effective July 1, 2009.

**Intro. by Lucas, Bell, Yongue.**

APPROP, STUDY