

February 3, 2009

H 51. REFORM LEGISLATIVE BUDGET PROCESS. Filed 2/3/09. *TO REFORM THE PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PROVIDE GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND TO REGULATE DISCRETIONARY FUNDS AND THE PROCESS OF ENACTMENT OF THE STATE BUDGET.*

Amends GS 143C-3-1 to require a copy of estimates of the financial needs of the legislative branch for the upcoming session fiscal period to be provided to all members of the General Assembly within 14 days of being provided to the Governor. Amends GS 143C-6-4(d), (e), and (f) to require (1) the President Pro Tempore (President Pro Tem) to report the approval of expenditures for more than was authorized in the enacted budget for objects or line items in the Senate budget to all members of the General Assembly within 14 days; (2) the Speaker of the House (Speaker) to report any changes in expenditures for more than was authorized in the enacted budget objects or line items in the House budget to all General Assembly members within 14 days; and (3) the President Pro Tem and Speaker to report any changes that exceed the amounts authorized for programs, objects, or line items in the General Assembly budget to all General Assembly members within 14 days.

Enacts new GS 143C-6-10.1 requiring the Speaker, President Pro Tem, and Legislative Services Officer to report to all members of the General Assembly all actions taken in administering the House, Senate, and General Assembly budgets, respectively, within 30 days of the end of each month.

Enacts new GS 143C-5-6 providing that neither the current operations appropriations bill nor a bill making a revision in that act for the second fiscal year of a biennium may be placed on the favorable calendar for: (1) second reading earlier than the third legislative day after the bill in the form that will be considered is distributed to all members of the house where the bill is being considered, and (2) adoption of the conference report earlier than the third legislative day after the conference report in the form that will be presented to the Governor for signature is distributed to the office of all General Assembly members.

Enacts new GS 143C-5-7 prohibiting provisions changing existing laws from being included in the current operations appropriations bill, the capital improvement appropriations bill, or any bill revising appropriations for the biennium's second fiscal year. Amendments to these bills are also out of order if the prohibited language is included. However, any of these bills, or amendments to these bills, may change existing law if the change (1) alters expenditures or salaries, (2) changes the scope or character of a program which must be changed because of an increase or decrease of funds appropriated to the program or because of changes in federal law or regulations, or (3) modifies a state government function which requires a transfer of funds from one department to another. Such a change must be recommended in a written report to the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee before or at the same time the bill is reported; or if the provision is in a floor amendment, an explanation of the amendment must be presented to the Principal Clerk by the amendment sponsor for distribution before the amendment is offered.

Effective July 1, 2009.

Intro. by Blust.

GS 143C

February 4, 2009

H 51. REFORM LEGISLATIVE BUDGET PROCESS. Filed 2/3/09. *TO REFORM THE PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PROVIDE GREATER TRANSPARENCY AND TO REGULATE DISCRETIONARY FUNDS AND THE PROCESS OF ENACTMENT OF THE STATE BUDGET.*

Correction: The description of new GS 143C-5-6 in yesterday's *Bulletin* should have read: neither the current operations appropriation bill nor a bill making revision in that act for the second fiscal year of a biennium may *not* be placed on the favorable calendar for: (1) second reading earlier than the third legislative day after the bill in the form that will be considered is distributed to all members of the house where the bill is being considered; and (2) adoption of the conference report earlier than the third legislative day after the conference report in the form that will be presented to the Governor for signature is distributed to the office of all General Assembly members.

Intro. by Blust.

GS 143C