

March 10, 2009

H 527. EX-OFFENDER REENTRY STUDY. Filed 3/10/09. *TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE ON EX-OFFENDER REENTRY.*

Establishes the 26-member Joint Legislative Study Committee on Ex-Offender Reentry (Committee) with 13 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and 13 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate according to specified qualifications. Provides that the Committee also includes the following nonvoting ex officio members: (1) Attorney General, or designee; (2) Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety, or designee; (3) Secretary of Commerce, or designee; (4) Director of Indigent Defense Services, or designee; (5) Secretary of Correction, or designee; (6) Director of Legal Aid of North Carolina, or designee; (7) Commissioner of Labor, or designee; (8) Secretary of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency, or designee; (9) Chair of the Employment Security Commission, or designee; (10) Director of the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, or designee; and (11) one representative who works in the area of criminal justice or ex-offender reentry from each of the following universities: NC Central, Winston-Salem State, Duke, and UNC-Chapel Hill. Requires the Committee to study issues related to reentry for people with criminal records, specifically how the state and other states address barriers in accessing jobs, housing, education, training, and services and to determine the best practices that reduce recidivism. Enumerates other issues that the Committee may consider. Requires the Committee to report its findings to the 2010 Regular Session of the 2009 General Assembly or to the 2011 General Assembly upon its convening. Provides that the Committee terminates on the convening of the 2011 General Assembly. Requires the Legislative Services Commission to allocate funds for expenses from the funds appropriated to the General Assembly for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 fiscal years. Provides for the appointment of chairs, the filling of vacancies, exercise of power, and the assignment of support staff. Includes legislative findings and whereas clauses.

Intro. by Pierce, Bryant, Jones, Ross.

STUDY