

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL DRS45360-MRp-94D

Short Title: 2025 State Investment Modernization Act.-AB (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hise, Craven, and Lee (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ENACT THE 2025 STATE INVESTMENT MODERNIZATION ACT, AS  
3 RECOMMENDED BY THE STATE TREASURER.  
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5  
6 **PART I. TECHNICAL REORGANIZATION OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 147 OF**  
7 **THE GENERAL STATUTES**

8 **SECTION 1.1.** Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes is amended to add  
9 the following new Parts:

- 10 (1) Part 1, to be entitled "General" and consisting of G.S. 147-65 through  
11 G.S. 147-69.  
12 (2) Part 2, to be entitled "Investments and Funds" and consisting of G.S. 147-69.1  
13 through G.S. 147-69.7.  
14 (3) Part 3, to be entitled "Reports and Audits" and consisting of G.S. 147-69.8  
15 through G.S. 147-69.70.  
16 (4) Part 4, to be entitled "North Carolina Investment Authority" and consisting of  
17 G.S. 147-70.1 through G.S. 147-73.2.  
18 (5) Part 5, to be entitled "Department Bookkeeping and Deposits" and consisting  
19 of G.S. 147-74 through G.S. 147-86.2.

20 **SECTION 1.2.(a)** G.S. 147-65 is recodified as G.S. 147-65.2.

21 **SECTION 1.2.(b)** G.S. 147-69.3A is recodified as G.S. 147-67.1.

22 **SECTION 1.2.(c)** G.S. 147-69.11 is recodified as G.S. 147-73.2.

23 **SECTION 1.2.(d)** G.S. 147-69.7 is recodified as G.S. 147-70.6.

24 **SECTION 1.2.(e)** G.S. 147-70 is recodified as G.S. 147-68.3.

25 **SECTION 1.2.(f)** G.S. 147-71 is recodified as G.S. 147-68.4.

26 **SECTION 1.2.(g)** G.S. 147-72 is repealed.

27 **SECTION 1.2.(h)** G.S. 147-73 is repealed.

28 **SECTION 1.2.(i)** G.S. 147-75 is recodified as G.S. 147-66.2.

29 **SECTION 1.2.(j)** G.S. 147-75.1 is recodified as G.S. 147-68.5.

30 **SECTION 1.2.(k)** G.S. 147-86.2 is recodified as G.S. 147-68.6.

31 **SECTION 1.3.** Subsection (i2) of G.S. 147-69.3 is recodified as subsection (b) of  
32 G.S. 147-65.2, as created by Section 1.2(a) of this Part.

33 **SECTION 1.4.** This Part is effective when it becomes law.

34  
35 **PART II. CREATION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA INVESTMENT AUTHORITY**



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1           **SECTION 2.1.** Part 1 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes, as created  
2 and amended by Part I of this act, is amended by adding a new section to read:

3       "§ 147-65.1. Definitions.

4       The following definitions apply in this Article:

- 5           (1) Board of Directors. – The Board of Directors of the North Carolina Investment  
6           Authority.
- 7           (2) Chief Investment Officer or CIO. – The Chief Investment Officer of the  
8           Investment Authority.
- 9           (3) Department. – The Department of State Treasurer.
- 10          (4) Escheats Fund. – The Escheats Fund established under Article 1A of Chapter  
11          116B of the General Statutes.
- 12          (5) Investment Authority. – The North Carolina Investment Authority,  
13          established under Part 4 of this Article.
- 14          (6) Reserved for future codification purposes.
- 15          (7) Retirement Systems. – This term includes all of the following retirement  
16          systems:
  - 17               a. The Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, established  
18               under Article 1 of Chapter 135 of the General Statutes.
  - 19               b. The Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, established under  
20               Article 4 of Chapter 135 of the General Statutes.
  - 21               c. The North Carolina Firefighters' and Rescue Workers' Pension Fund,  
22               established under Article 86 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes.
  - 23               d. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System, established  
24               under Article 3 of Chapter 128 of the General Statutes.
  - 25               e. The Legislative Retirement System of North Carolina, established  
26               under Article 1A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes.
  - 27               f. The North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund, established under  
28               Article 3 of Chapter 127A of the General Statutes.
  - 29               g. The Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension Fund, established  
30               under Article 3 of Chapter 161 of the General Statutes.
  - 31               h. The Retiree Health Benefit Fund, established under G.S. 135-7(f).
  - 32               i. The North Carolina Teachers' and State Employees' Benefit Trust,  
33               established under G.S. 135-7(g).
- 34          (8) Treasurer. – The State Treasurer."

35       **SECTION 2.2.** Part 4 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes, as created  
36 and amended by Part I of this act, reads as rewritten:

37                       "Part 4. North Carolina Investment Authority.

38       "§ 147-70.1. Creation of Investment Authority.

39       (a) Creation. – The North Carolina Investment Authority is created as a body corporate  
40 and politic having the powers and jurisdiction as provided under this Article or any other law.  
41 The Investment Authority is a State agency for the performance of essential governmental and  
42 public functions. The Investment Authority is located within, but independent from the control  
43 of, the Department of State Treasurer. The Investment Authority shall have perpetual succession.

44       (b) Independence. – The Investment Authority, in carrying out its statutory  
45 responsibilities, shall be independent of any fiscal control exercised by the Director of the  
46 Budget, the Department of Administration, and the Department of State Treasurer, including for  
47 organizational, staffing, procurement, and budgetary purposes. Except as provided under  
48 subsection (c) of this section and unless otherwise explicitly provided by law, the Investment  
49 Authority is exempt from the State Budget Act, and the provisions of Chapter 143C of the  
50 General Statutes do not apply to the Investment Authority.

1       (c) Fiduciary Funds. – In order for the Investment Authority to effectively operate the  
2 investment programs under its management, all funds while under management of the Investment  
3 Authority are Fiduciary Funds described under subdivisions (8) through (10) of G.S. 143C-1-3(a)  
4 and shall be accounted for as specified in G.S. 147-69.3(f).

5 **"§ 147-70.2. Powers and duties of the Investment Authority.**

6       (a) In addition to the authority granted to the Investment Authority under this Article or  
7 any other law, the Investment Authority shall have all of the powers necessary to execute the  
8 provisions of this Part, including, at a minimum, the following powers:

9           (1) The right to sue and be sued.

10          (2) To take, demand, receive, and possess all kinds of real and personal property  
11 necessary and proper for its purposes.

12          (3) To bargain, sell, grant, alienate, or dispose of all real and personal property as  
13 it may lawfully acquire.

14       (b) The Investment Authority shall have the right to acquire fidelity bonds, fiduciary  
15 insurance, directors' and officers' insurance, or errors and omissions coverage, as determined by  
16 the Investment Authority board. This right is independent of any purchase of insurance by the  
17 State Treasurer under G.S. 147-67.1.

18       (c) Pursuant to G.S. 143B-1320(b), the Investment Authority shall be exempt from the  
19 provisions of Article 15 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes.

20 **"§ 147-70.3. Taxation of Investment Authority.**

21       (a) Property owned or acquired by the Authority is exempt from all taxes imposed by the  
22 State or any political subdivision of the State.

23       (b) The Investment Authority shall not be subject to State income taxes.

24       (c) This section shall not be construed to apply in any way to individual members of the  
25 Board of Directors or any employee of the Investment Authority.

26 **"§ 147-70.4. Confidentiality of Investment Authority records.**

27       Any record or other information received or generated by the Investment Authority in order  
28 to negotiate at arm's length investment transactions that constitute a trade secret, as defined in  
29 G.S. 66-152, is not public record and is exempt from the requirements of Chapter 132 of the  
30 General Statutes until the applicable negotiation is completed and unless the record or  
31 information substantiates a conflict with the duties of the Investment Authority under  
32 G.S. 147-70.6(a).

33 **"§ 147-70.5. Criminal record checks.**

34       (a) The Investment Authority may obtain from the State and National Repositories of  
35 Criminal Histories or from any other lawful source the criminal history of any of the following  
36 individuals:

37           (1) A current or prospective permanent or temporary employee of the Investment  
38 Authority.

39           (2) A contractor with the Investment Authority.

40           (3) An employee or agent of a contractor with the Investment Authority who is  
41 performing or will perform work for the Investment Authority.

42           (4) A volunteer of the Investment Authority.

43           (5) Any other individual otherwise engaged by the Investment Authority who will  
44 have access to health or financial information or data maintained by the  
45 Investment Authority that is confidential or otherwise nonpublic.

46       (b) The Investment Authority may deny employment to or dismiss any individual  
47 identified under subdivisions (1), (2), (4), and (5) of subsection (a) of this section who refuses to  
48 consent to a criminal history record check or to the use of fingerprints or other identifying  
49 information required by the State or National Repositories of Criminal Histories. Any refusal  
50 shall constitute just cause for the employment denial or the dismissal from employment.

1       (c)     The Investment Authority may extend a conditional offer of employment pending the  
2 results of a criminal history record check authorized by this section.

3 ...  
4 **"§ 147-71.1. Board of Directors.**

5       (a)     Membership. – The Investment Authority shall be governed by a Board of Directors.  
6 The Board of Directors shall consist of the following voting members:

- 7           (1)     The State Treasurer, who shall serve as an ex officio member.
- 8           (2)     One member appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation  
9 of the Speaker of the House of Representatives in accordance with  
10 G.S. 120-121.
- 11          (3)     One member appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation  
12 of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate in accordance with G.S. 120-121.
- 13          (4)     One member appointed by the Governor.
- 14          (5)     One member appointed by the State Treasurer.

15       (b)     Terms. – The four appointive directors of the Board of Directors shall be appointed  
16 for staggered six-year terms, except for the initial term. The initial term of the director appointed  
17 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate is one year. The initial term of the director appointed  
18 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives is two years. The initial term of the director  
19 appointed by the State Treasurer is three years. The initial term of the director appointed by the  
20 Governor is four years. An appointive director whose term has expired but whose qualified  
21 successor has not been appointed shall continue to serve on the Board of Directors until a  
22 qualified successor is duly appointed, including by the State Treasurer after a holdover period of  
23 six months or more as provided for under subsection (e) of this section.

24       (c)     Qualifications to Serve. – No appointed director of the Board of Directors shall hold  
25 any other public office in North Carolina, except that an appointed director may also have  
26 membership on either or both of the Boards of Trustees under G.S. 128-28 and G.S. 135-6. All  
27 appointed members of the Board of Directors shall have expert knowledge of investments and a  
28 minimum of a 10-year track record of successful management in pension, endowment, or other  
29 relevant investment management fields. The State Treasurer shall determine the sufficiency of a  
30 prospective member's expert knowledge.

31       (d)     Disqualifications to Serve. – An individual is not eligible to serve on the Board of  
32 Directors if any of the following apply to that individual:

- 33           (1)     The individual has been indicted or charged with, been convicted of, pleaded  
34 guilty or nolo contendere to, or forfeited bail concerning a felony, or a  
35 misdemeanor involving fraud, theft, or dishonesty under the laws of any  
36 jurisdiction in the United States.
- 37           (2)     The individual has had a judgment entered against him or her by a court of  
38 competent jurisdiction in a civil matter involving a breach of fiduciary duties.
- 39           (3)     The individual has been the subject of an adverse action by the Securities and  
40 Exchange Commission which resulted in any sanction, payment of a fine,  
41 injunction, or other negative finding, whether individually or as a partner,  
42 principal member, managing director, or other position of leadership of any  
43 entity subject to the penalty or finding.
- 44           (4)     The individual, or the individual's spouse or immediate family member, is or  
45 becomes employed by the Department of State Treasurer or by a service  
46 provider engaged to invest or assist in the oversight of assets overseen by the  
47 Investment Authority.
- 48           (5)     The individual, or the individual's spouse or immediate family member, is an  
49 endorser, obligor, or provider of surety for, or is a borrower of, any money  
50 loaned to or borrowed from the assets overseen by the Board of Directors.

1       (e) Vacancies. – Any vacancy in a position held by an appointive member shall be filled  
2 by a new appointment made by the applicable appointing authority for the vacant seat. If a seat  
3 on the Board of Directors is vacant or held over for six months or more without an appointment  
4 by the applicable appointing authority of an individual meeting the qualifications in this section,  
5 then the State Treasurer may nominate a member for approval by the Board of Directors. Any  
6 individual appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired term. A vacancy  
7 automatically occurs upon the death or resignation of a member of the Board of Directors or upon  
8 the failure of a member of the Board of Directors to do any of the following:

9           (1) Attend meetings for three consecutive meetings unless excused by majority  
10 vote of the other Board of Directors members.

11           (2) Cure a conflict of interest within 30 days of identification of the conflict.

12           (3) Agree to abide by the ethics policy adopted by the Board of Directors.

13       (f) Reappointment. – Any member of the Board of Directors is eligible for  
14 reappointment, except that no appointive member of the Board of Directors may serve for more  
15 than two consecutive, full, six-year terms without at least a one-year break in membership on the  
16 Board of Directors.

17       (g) Oath. – Each appointive member of the Board of Directors shall take an oath of office  
18 to administer the duties of office faithfully and impartially, and a record of the oath shall be filed  
19 in the office of the Secretary of State.

20       (h) Officers. – The following shall apply to officers of the Board of Directors:

21           (1) The State Treasurer shall serve as chair of the Board of Directors.

22           (2) The State Treasurer shall designate a vice-chair from among the remaining  
23 members of the Board of Directors. The term of the vice-chair extends to the  
24 earlier of either three years or the date of expiration of the vice-chair's then  
25 current term as a member of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the State  
26 Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee, the vice-chair shall preside over the  
27 proceedings of the Board of Directors.

28           (3) The Board of Directors shall appoint and prescribe the duties of a secretary,  
29 who need not be a member of the Board of Directors. The secretary is the  
30 custodian of all books, documents, and papers filed with the Board of  
31 Directors and the minute book or journal of the Board of Directors. The  
32 secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors. The  
33 secretary has the authority to make copies of all minutes and other records and  
34 documents of the Board of Directors.

35       (i) Designees. – The State Treasurer is authorized to appoint a designee. No other  
36 member of the Board of Directors is authorized to appoint a designee.

37       (j) Compensation and Reimbursement. – Members of the Board of Directors shall  
38 receive no compensation for their services. For attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors  
39 or any committee of the Board of Directors, and for other services for the Investment Authority,  
40 members of the Board of Directors shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances in  
41 accordance with G.S. 138-5 or G.S. 138-6, as appropriate.

42       (k) Meetings and Voting. – The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly. A  
43 meeting may be called by the State Treasurer or by a majority of the Board of Directors. The  
44 State Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee shall establish the agenda for each meeting. A  
45 minimum of three members of the Board of Directors is required for quorum. The affirmative  
46 vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting of the Board of  
47 Directors that has been duly called and held is required for any action taken by the Investment  
48 Authority, except that the State Treasurer's vote shall prevail in the event of a tied vote.

49 **"§ 147-71.2. Duties of the Board of Directors.**

50       (a) Investment-Related Powers and Duties. – The Board of Directors has all of the  
51 following investment-related powers and duties:

- 1           (1)    The Board of Directors has the authority to approve all of the following:  
2            a.       Investment policy statements to include investment objectives,  
3                strategic asset allocation, and policy benchmarks.  
4            b.       Risk budgets, including related limits for key risk indicators.  
5            c.       The appointment of a master global custodian bank.  
6            d.       Annual operating budgets for investment programs.  
7            e.       Market-oriented compensation plans.  
8           (2)    The Board of Directors shall periodically review all of the following:  
9            a.       Investment performance and investment manager appointment and  
10               termination activities.  
11           b.       Investment strategies, policies, and tactical considerations.  
12           c.       Asset liability studies.  
13           d.       Performance benchmarks and key risk indicators.  
14           e.       Audited investment financial statements and audit reports pursuant to  
15               G.S. 147-69.9.  
16           f.       Independent evaluation of governance, operations, and investment  
17               practices.  
18           g.       Periodic cost-effectiveness studies of the investment programs.  
19           (3)    The Board of Directors shall appoint a Chief Investment Officer of the  
20               Investment Authority.  
21           (4)    With respect to Retirement Systems' assets, at least biennially, the Board of  
22               Directors shall approve an absolute risk operating range. The absolute risk  
23               operating range shall be expressed in equity and debt allocation equivalency  
24               terms and shall meet all of the following criteria:  
25            a.       The range is deemed appropriate in seeking to maximize long-term  
26               returns.  
27            b.       The risk is not considered undue relative to other similarly situated  
28               U.S. public pension funds. An assessment of compliance with this  
29               requirement related to undue risk shall be construed in a manner  
30               consistent with subsections (c) and (d) of G.S. 147-70.6.  
31            c.       In setting the range, the Board of Directors has taken into  
32               consideration all of the factors affecting the funding of the Retirement  
33               Systems and each of the Retirement Systems' ability to meet its  
34               financial obligations.  
35           (5)    The Board of Directors shall utilize the approved absolute risk operating range  
36               under subdivision (4) of this subsection to recommend investment return  
37               assumptions to (i) the Board of Trustees of the Local Governmental  
38               Retirement System, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State  
39               Employees' Retirement System, and (iii) the actuaries engaged to prepare  
40               annual actuarial valuations.  
41           (b)    Annual Internal Budget. – The Board of Directors shall not approve an annual internal  
42               budget for the Investment Authority that exceeds three basis points of a rolling three-year average  
43               of total assets invested by the Investment Authority, unless the Investment Authority reasonably  
44               determines that, because of special circumstances, including applicable investment restrictions,  
45               it is clearly not prudent to do so. The annual internal budget includes expenditures directly  
46               associated with services retained by the Investment Authority in accordance with subsection (c)  
47               of this section and employee compensation and benefits. The Investment Authority's approved  
48               annual internal budget as well as the Investment Authority's actual spending for the prior fiscal  
49               year shall be annually reported to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations,  
50               the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the Senate Appropriations/Base  
51               Budget Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division.

1       (c) Authority to Contract for Services. – Notwithstanding Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the  
2 General Statutes, G.S. 114-2.3, and G.S. 147-17, the Investment Authority is authorized to  
3 independently retain the services of appraisers, auditors, actuaries, attorneys, investment  
4 consultants, statisticians, custodians, information technology professionals, or other persons or  
5 firms possessing specialized skills or knowledge necessary for the proper administration of  
6 investment programs created pursuant to this section.

7       (d) Setting of Compensation Plans. – In order to promote achievement of long-term  
8 investment objectives and to retain key public employees with investment functions, the  
9 Investment Authority is authorized to establish, consistent with the Investment Authority's  
10 fiduciary duties, market-oriented compensation plans, including salaries and performance-related  
11 bonuses, for employees possessing specialized skills or knowledge necessary for the proper  
12 administration of investment programs. The design and administration of those compensation  
13 plans shall be based on compensation studies conducted by a nationally recognized firm  
14 specializing in public fund investment compensation. The compensation and other associated  
15 employee benefits shall be apportioned directly from the investment program. The Investment  
16 Authority shall report the salaries and bonuses paid to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
17 on General Government annually.

18 **"§ 147-71.3. Liability of Board of Directors.**

19 An individual serving on the Board of Directors shall be immune individually from civil  
20 liability for monetary damages, except to the extent covered by insurance, for any act or failure  
21 to act arising out of that service, except where any of the following apply:

- 22       (1) The individual was not acting within the scope of that individual's official  
23 duties.
- 24       (2) The individual was not acting in good faith.
- 25       (3) The individual committed gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct  
26 that resulted in the damages or injury.
- 27       (4) The individual derived an improper personal financial benefit, either directly  
28 or indirectly, from the transaction.
- 29       (5) The individual incurred the liability from the operation of a motor vehicle.

30 ...

31 **"§ 147-72.1. Chief Investment Officer.**

32       (a) Principal Executive Officer. – The Chief Investment Officer is the Investment  
33 Authority's principal executive officer and is responsible to the Board of Directors.

34       (b) Appointment and Term. – The CIO shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Board  
35 of Directors, and any vacancy may be so filled by the Board of Directors. An individual appointed  
36 as the CIO shall have expert knowledge of investments and a minimum of a 15-year track record  
37 of successful management in pension, endowment, or other relevant investment management  
38 arenas. The term of employment and compensation of the CIO is set by the Board of Directors,  
39 except that each term of employment shall be limited to five years or less. The CIO is eligible  
40 for multiple terms of employment without interruption. The CIO may be removed from office by  
41 the Board of Directors.

42       (c) Employment of Staff. – The Chief Investment Officer shall employ staff necessary to  
43 assist the CIO and the Board of Directors in carrying out duties and responsibilities under this  
44 Article or as prescribed in any other law. Unless otherwise provided by law, Investment Authority  
45 employees shall serve at the pleasure of the CIO and any vacancies in these positions may be  
46 filled by the CIO. The CIO may designate managerial, professional, and policy-making positions  
47 as exempt from the North Carolina Human Resources Act, in accordance with G.S. 126-5(c1).  
48 Compensation of employees is set by the CIO within the limits set by the compensation plan  
49 approved by the Board of Directors under G.S. 147-71.2.

50       (d) Contract Negotiation. – The CIO may negotiate, renegotiate, and execute contracts  
51 with third parties in the performance of the CIO's duties and responsibilities under this Article.

1 Any delegation of authority by the Board of Directors shall require Board of Directors approval  
 2 and shall reserve certain strategic decisions and extraordinary investment decisions to the Board  
 3 of Directors. Contract execution with master global custodian banks and external auditors shall  
 4 be done only after approved by the Board of Directors.

5 ...

6 **"§ 147-73.2. Ethics policies.**

7 To ensure that the ~~State Treasurer's Investment Authority~~ investment programs operate under  
 8 a strong governance framework with rigorous internal controls and a high degree of operational  
 9 transparency and are managed with the highest ethical and professional standards and in the most  
 10 efficient and effective manner possible, the ~~State Treasurer, after consultation with the~~  
 11 ~~Investment Advisory Committee, is authorized and required to~~ Board of Directors shall adopt  
 12 policies and procedures on the following topics:

- 13 (1) Requiring that the ~~Department of State Treasurer's Investment Management~~  
 14 ~~Division~~ Investment Authority adopt a code of ethics.
- 15 (2) Requiring all employees of the ~~Department~~ Investment Authority who have  
 16 responsibility for matters related to investments to be provided with training  
 17 with respect to the discharge of their duties and responsibilities to the funds.
- 18 (3) Governing gifts to employees of the ~~Department~~ Investment Authority who  
 19 have responsibility for matters related to investments.
- 20 (4) Imposing limitations on external investment managers' use of placement  
 21 agents and other persons that appear before the ~~Department~~ Investment  
 22 Authority to ensure that these persons play only a proper role in investment  
 23 opportunities.
- 24 (5) As a component of the investment due diligence, negotiations, and contracting  
 25 process, requiring an independent assessment of whether circumstances exist  
 26 that create a material risk that professional judgement or actions regarding a  
 27 potential investment arrangement's recommendation, approval, or execution  
 28 have been or will be unduly influenced by a direct or indirect personal  
 29 interest."

30 **SECTION 2.3.(a)** Rules, codes of ethics, policies, and procedures adopted by the  
 31 State Treasurer in effect on June 30, 2025, that are impacted by the change in authority from the  
 32 State Treasurer or Department of State Treasurer to the Investment Authority under this Part shall  
 33 remain in effect until amended by law, amended by the Investment Authority, or repealed.

34 **SECTION 2.3.(b)** Before January 1, 2026, when the Investment Authority shall  
 35 begin to manage investments under Part III of this act, funds appropriated to the Department of  
 36 State Treasurer and funds available to the Department of State Treasurer under G.S. 147-69.3  
 37 may be used to pay any expenses of the Investment Authority.

38 **SECTION 2.4.** This Part is effective July 1, 2025.

39  
 40 **PART III. NORTH CAROLINA INVESTMENT AUTHORITY TO MANAGE**  
 41 **INVESTMENTS AND BEGIN CARRYING OUT STATUTORY DUTIES JANUARY 1,**  
 42 **2026**

43 **SECTION 3.1.(a)** Part 2 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes, as  
 44 created and amended by Part I of this act, reads as rewritten:

45 "Part 2. Investments and Funds

46 **"§ 147-69.1. Investments authorized for General Fund and Highway Funds assets.**

47 (a) The Governor and Council of State, with the advice and assistance of the State  
 48 ~~Treasurer, shall~~ Treasurer and the Investment Authority, may adopt such rules and regulations as  
 49 ~~shall be necessary and appropriate to implement the provisions for the implementation of this~~  
 50 section.



- 1 (b) This section applies to funds ~~held by~~ deposited with the State Treasurer to the credit  
2 ~~of~~ of all of the following:
- 3 (1) The General ~~Fund~~; Fund.
  - 4 (2) The Highway Fund and Highway Trust Fund.
- 5 (c) It ~~shall be~~ is the duty of the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority to invest the cash  
6 of the funds enumerated in subsection (b) of this section in excess of the amount required to meet  
7 the current needs and demands on ~~such those~~ funds, selecting from among the following:
- 8 (1) Obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to  
9 principal and interest by the United States.
  - 10 (2) Obligations of the Federal Farm Credit Bank, the Federal Home Loan Banks,  
11 the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Fannie Mae, the Government  
12 National Mortgage Association, the International Bank for Reconstruction  
13 and Development, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American  
14 Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the African  
15 Development Bank.
  - 16 (3) Repurchase Agreements with respect to one or more of the following:
    - 17 a. Securities issued or guaranteed by the United States government or its  
18 agencies.
    - 19 b. Securities eligible for investment by this section executed by a bank  
20 or trust company or by primary or other reporting dealers to the  
21 Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
    - 22 c. Securities eligible for investment by this section executed by a  
23 registered broker-dealer that is subject to the rules and regulations of  
24 the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and is a member in  
25 good standing of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.
  - 26 (4) Obligations of the State of North Carolina.
  - 27 (5) Certificates of deposit and other deposit accounts of financial institutions  
28 under any of the following conditions:
    - 29 a. With financial institutions with a physical presence in the State for the  
30 purpose of receiving commercial or retail deposits; provided that any  
31 principal amount of such deposit in excess of the amount insured by  
32 the federal government or any agency thereof, be fully secured by  
33 surety bonds, or be fully collateralized; provided further that the rate  
34 of return or investment yield may not be less than that available in the  
35 market on United States government or agency obligations of  
36 comparable maturity.
    - 37 b. With financial institutions with a physical presence inside or outside  
38 the State, in accordance with all of the following conditions:
      - 39 1. The funds are initially deposited through a bank or savings and  
40 loan association in the State that is an official depository and  
41 that is selected by the State Treasurer, provided that the rate of  
42 return or investment yield shall not be less than that available  
43 in the market on United States government or agency  
44 obligations of comparable maturity.
      - 45 2. The selected bank or savings and loan association arranges for  
46 the redeposit of the funds in deposit accounts of the State in  
47 one or more federally insured banks or savings and loan  
48 associations wherever located, provided that no State funds  
49 shall be deposited in a bank or savings and loan association  
50 that at the time holds other deposits from the State.



- 1 (1) The Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System of North Carolina.
- 2 (2) The Consolidated Judicial Retirement System of North Carolina.
- 3 (3) The State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees.
- 4 ...
- 5 (5) The Disability Salary Continuation Income Plan of North Carolina.
- 6 (6) The North Carolina Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund.
- 7 (7) The North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System.
- 8 (8) The Legislative Retirement System of North Carolina.
- 9 (9) The Escheat Fund.
- 10 (10) The Legislative Retirement Fund.
- 11 (11) The State Education Assistance Authority.
- 12 (12) The State Property Fire Insurance Fund.
- 13 ...
- 14 (16) The Liability Insurance Trust Fund.
- 15 (16a) The University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill funds, except
- 16 appropriated funds, deposited with the State Treasurer pursuant to
- 17 G.S. 116-350.40.
- 18 (17) Trust funds of The University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions
- 19 deposited with the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 116-36.1.
- 20 (17a) North Carolina Veterans Home Trust Fund.
- 21 (17b) North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund.
- 22 (17c) Retiree Health Benefit Fund.
- 23 (17d) The Election Fund.
- 24 (17e) The North Carolina State Lottery Fund.
- 25 (17f) Funds deposited with the State Treasurer by public hospitals pursuant to
- 26 G.S. 159-39(g).
- 27 (17g) Funds deposited with the State Treasurer by Local Government Other
- 28 Post-Employment Benefits Trusts pursuant to G.S. 159-30.1.
- 29 (17h) The Local Government Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance
- 30 Fund.
- 31 (17i) The North Carolina Conservation Easement Endowment Fund.
- 32 (17j) The Conservation Grant Fund.
- 33 (17k) The Wildlife Endowment Fund.
- 34 (17l) The Ecosystem Restoration Fund.
- 35 (17m) The Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund.
- 36 (17n) The Riparian Buffer Restoration Fund.
- 37 (18) Any other special fund created by or pursuant to law for purposes other than
- 38 meeting appropriations made pursuant to the Executive Budget Act.
- 39 (19) The Swain County Settlement Trust Fund.
- 40 (20) Institutional funds of the colleges of the North Carolina Community College
- 41 System.
- 42 (21) The Disability Income Plan of North Carolina.
- 43 ...
- 44 (23) The Catawba Unit No. 1 Decommissioning Trust Fund and the Catawba Unit
- 45 No. 2 Decommissioning Trust Fund established by North Carolina Municipal
- 46 Power Agency Number 1, as described in G.S. 159B-18(b)(6).
- 47 (24) Funds deposited with the State Treasurer by charter schools pursuant to
- 48 G.S. 115C-218.15(f).

49 (b) It shall be the duty of the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority to invest the cash of  
 50 the funds enumerated in subsection (a) of this section in excess of the amount required to meet  
 51 the current needs and demands on these funds. The ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may

1 invest the funds as provided in this subsection in the manner authorized by subsection (e) of this  
 2 section. If an investment was authorized by this subsection at the time the investment was made  
 3 or contractually committed to be made, then that investment shall continue to be authorized by  
 4 this subsection, and none of the percentage or other limitation on investments set forth in this  
 5 subsection shall be construed to require the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority to subsequently  
 6 dispose of the investment or fail to honor any contractual commitments as a result of changes in  
 7 market values, ratings, or other investment qualifications. For purposes of computing market  
 8 values on which percentage limitations on investments in this subsection are based, all  
 9 investments shall be valued as of the last date of the most recent fiscal quarter. Notwithstanding  
 10 anything in this section to the contrary, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall categorize  
 11 investment management arrangements according to the primary investment type or primary  
 12 strategy utilized under the arrangement authorized under subsection (e) of this section. No  
 13 investment management arrangement may be categorized in more than one of the subdivisions  
 14 of this section. The ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall select from among the following  
 15 investments subject to ~~the following any stipulated~~ limitations and requirements:

- 16 (1) Investments authorized by G.S. 147-69.1(c)(1)-(7).
- 17 (2) General obligations of other states of the United States.
- 18 (3) General obligations of cities, counties and special districts in North Carolina.
- 19 (4) Obligations of any company, other organization or legal entity incorporated  
 20 or otherwise created or located within or outside the United States, including  
 21 obligations that are convertible into equity securities, if, when acquired, the  
 22 obligations are within one of the four highest rating categories regardless of  
 23 gradations, such as ratings beginning with "AAA," "AA," "A," or either  
 24 "BBB" or "Baa," of at least one nationally recognized rating service  
 25 designated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

26 ...

- 27 (6) ~~Asset-backed securities (whether securities, whether considered debt or~~  
 28 ~~equity), equity,~~ if, when acquired, the obligations are within one of the four  
 29 highest ratings categories regardless of gradations, such as ratings beginning  
 30 with "AAA," "AA," "A," or either "BBB" or "Baa," of at least one nationally  
 31 recognized rating service designated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange  
 32 Commission.

- 33 (6a) In addition to the limitations and requirements with respect to the investments  
 34 of the Retirement Systems ~~set forth in~~ under this subsection, the ~~State~~  
 35 ~~Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall select investments of the assets of the  
 36 Retirement Systems such that investments made pursuant to subdivisions  
 37 ~~(b)(1)-(1)~~ through (6) of this ~~section~~ subsection shall at all times equal or  
 38 exceed twenty percent (20%) of the market value of all invested assets of the  
 39 Retirement Systems.

40 ...

- 41 (6c) ~~With respect to Retirement Systems' assets referred to in subdivision (b)(8),~~  
 42 ~~they~~ may be invested, within or outside the United States, in obligations, debt  
 43 securities, and asset-backed securities, whether considered debt or equity,  
 44 including obligations and securities convertible into other securities, that do  
 45 not meet the requirements of any of subdivisions ~~(b)(1)-(1)~~ through (6) of this  
 46 ~~section~~ subsection nor subdivision ~~(b)(7)-(7)~~ of this ~~section~~. ~~The amount~~  
 47 ~~invested under this subdivision shall not exceed seven and one half percent~~  
 48 ~~(7.5%) of the market value of all invested assets of the Retirement~~  
 49 ~~Systems~~ subsection.

- 50 (7) Retirement Systems' assets ~~referred to in subdivision (8) of this subsection~~  
 51 may be invested in strategies managed primarily for the purpose of owning

- 1 real estate or related debt financing, excluding asset-backed financing and  
 2 timberlands, located within or outside the United States. ~~The amount invested~~  
 3 ~~under this subdivision shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the market value~~  
 4 ~~of all invested assets of the Retirement Systems.~~
- 5 (8) ~~With respect to assets of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement~~  
 6 ~~System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, the Firefighters' and~~  
 7 ~~Rescue Workers' Pension Fund, the Local Governmental Employees'~~  
 8 ~~Retirement System, the Legislative Retirement System, the North Carolina~~  
 9 ~~National Guard Pension Fund, the Registers of Deeds' Supplemental Pension~~  
 10 ~~Fund, and the Retiree Health Benefit Fund (hereinafter referred to collectively~~  
 11 ~~as the Retirement Systems), they Retirement Systems' assets may be invested~~  
 12 ~~in a strategy composed primarily of equity securities traded on a public~~  
 13 ~~securities exchange or market organized and regulated pursuant to the laws of~~  
 14 ~~the jurisdiction of the exchange or market and issued by any company~~  
 15 ~~incorporated or otherwise created or located within or outside the United~~  
 16 ~~States as long as the investments meet the conditions of this subdivision. The~~  
 17 ~~investments authorized for the Retirement Systems under this subdivision are~~  
 18 ~~subject to the following limitations:~~
- 19 ...
- 20 a1. ~~The aggregate amount of the investments cannot exceed sixty five~~  
 21 ~~percent (65%) of the market value of all invested assets of the~~  
 22 ~~Retirement Systems.~~
- 23 b. ~~The aggregate amount of the investment invested through investment~~  
 24 ~~companies described in sub-subdivision (e)(4)b. of this section shall~~  
 25 ~~not exceed eight and one half percent (8.5%) of the market value of~~  
 26 ~~all invested assets of the Retirement Systems, except that the market~~  
 27 ~~value of group trusts and individual, common, or collective trust funds~~  
 28 ~~of banks and trust companies shall not be applied against this limit.~~
- 29 ...
- 30 (9) ~~With respect to Retirement Systems' assets, as defined in subdivision (b)(8)~~  
 31 ~~of this subsection, they assets may be invested in (i) a strategy composed~~  
 32 ~~primarily of private equity, or corporate buyout transactions, within or outside~~  
 33 ~~the United States or (ii) an arrangement authorized under subsection (e) of this~~  
 34 ~~section with the primary purpose to engage in other strategies not expressly~~  
 35 ~~authorized by any other subdivision of this subsection. The amount invested~~  
 36 ~~under this subdivision shall not exceed eight and three quarters percent~~  
 37 ~~(8.75%) of the market value of all invested assets of the Retirement Systems.~~
- 38 (9a) ~~With respect to Retirement Systems' assets, as defined in subdivision (b)(8)~~  
 39 ~~of this subsection, they assets may be invested, within or outside the United~~  
 40 ~~States, in obligations, debt securities, asset-backed securities, whether~~  
 41 ~~considered debt or equity, and other investments that are acquired by the~~  
 42 ~~Treasurer Investment Authority for the primary purpose of providing~~  
 43 ~~protection against risks associated with inflation, along with owning real~~  
 44 ~~assets or related debt financing, including, but not limited to, timberland,~~  
 45 ~~natural resources, commodities, infrastructure, transportation, agriculture, and~~  
 46 ~~other tangible and intangible real assets. The amount invested under this~~  
 47 ~~subdivision shall not exceed seven and one half percent (7.5%) of the market~~  
 48 ~~value of all invested assets of the Retirement Systems.~~
- 49 ...
- 50 (10a) ~~With respect to Retirement Systems' assets, as defined in subdivision (8) of~~  
 51 ~~this subsection, the market value of any of subdivision (6c) or (7),~~

1 ~~sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (8), or subdivision (9) or (9a) of this~~  
 2 ~~subsection shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the market value of all~~  
 3 ~~invested assets of the Retirement Systems; and the~~ The aggregate market value  
 4 ~~of all assets invested pursuant to subdivisions (6c) and (7), sub-subdivision b.~~  
 5 ~~of subdivision (8), and subdivisions (9) and (9a)-(6c), (7), (8), (9), and (9a)~~  
 6 ~~of this subsection shall not exceed thirty-five percent (35%)—eighty percent~~  
 7 ~~(80%) of the market value of all invested assets of the Retirement~~  
 8 ~~Systems.~~ Systems, including any digital assets invested pursuant to  
 9 G.S. 147-69.2E(c).

10 (10b) The market value of illiquid investments, as determined by the Board of  
 11 Directors, shall not exceed forty percent (40%) of the market value of all  
 12 invested assets of the Retirement System.

13 ...  
 14 (12) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Escheat Fund provide a  
 15 perpetual and sustainable source of funding for the purposes authorized by the  
 16 State Constitution. Accordingly, the following provisions ~~apply~~ apply to the  
 17 assets of the Escheat Fund:

18 a. ~~With respect to The Investment Authority may invest the assets of the~~  
 19 ~~Escheat Fund, in addition to Fund in those investments authorized by~~  
 20 ~~subdivisions (1) through (6) of this subsection, up to ten percent (10%)~~  
 21 ~~subsection. Up to eighty percent (80%) of the assets may be invested~~  
 22 ~~in the investments authorized under subdivisions (6c) through (9a) of~~  
 23 ~~this subsection, notwithstanding the percentage limitations imposed on~~  
 24 ~~the Retirement Systems' investments under those subdivisions, and~~  
 25 ~~provided that the State Treasurer subsection. The Investment~~  
 26 ~~Authority may invest the assets as provided in subsection (e) of this~~  
 27 ~~section.~~

28 ...  
 29 c. ~~The State Treasurer shall~~ The Investment Authority may invest, in  
 30 addition to those investments authorized by sub-subdivision a. ten  
 31 percent (10%) of the net assets of the Escheat Fund as authorized under  
 32 G.S. 147-69.2A.

33 ~~(b1) The State Treasurer shall appoint an Investment Advisory Committee, which shall~~  
 34 ~~consist of seven members: the State Treasurer, who shall be chairman ex officio; two members~~  
 35 ~~selected from among the members of the boards of trustees of the Retirement Systems; and four~~  
 36 ~~members selected from the general public. All appointed members must have experience in areas~~  
 37 ~~relevant to the administration of a large, diversified investment program, including, but not~~  
 38 ~~limited to, investment management, securities law, real estate development, or absolute return~~  
 39 ~~strategies. The State Treasurer shall also appoint a Secretary of the Investment Advisory~~  
 40 ~~Committee who need not be a member of the committee. Members of the committee shall receive~~  
 41 ~~for their services the same per diem and allowances granted to members of the State boards and~~  
 42 ~~commissions generally. The committee shall have advisory powers only and membership shall~~  
 43 ~~not be deemed a public office within the meaning of Article VI, Section 9 of the Constitution of~~  
 44 ~~North Carolina or G.S. 128-1.1.~~

45 ~~(b2) The State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited pursuant to  
 46 subdivision (a)(17f) of this section in any of the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1)  
 47 through (6), subdivision (b)(6c), and subdivision (b)(8) of this section, notwithstanding the  
 48 percentage limitations imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments therein. ~~section.~~ The  
 49 State Treasurer Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit, up to one hundred  
 50 thousand dollars (\$100,000), and may assess reasonable fees, not to exceed 15 basis points per  
 51 annum, as a condition of participation pursuant to this subsection. Funds deposited pursuant to

1 this subsection by a hospital shall remain the funds of that hospital, and interest or other  
2 investment income earned thereon shall be prorated and credited to the contributing hospital on  
3 the basis of the amounts thereof contributed, figured according to sound accounting principles.  
4 Fees assessed by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may be used to defray the cost of  
5 administering investments pursuant to this subsection and expenditures authorized under this  
6 section.

7 (b3) The ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited pursuant to  
8 subdivision (a)(16a) of this section in any of the investments authorized under subdivisions (1)  
9 through (6), subdivision (6c) and subdivision (b)(8) of this ~~section, notwithstanding the~~  
10 ~~percentage limitations imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments therein.~~ section. The  
11 ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit, up to one hundred  
12 thousand dollars (\$100,000), and may assess reasonable fees, not to exceed 15 basis points per  
13 annum, as a condition of participation pursuant to this subsection. Funds deposited pursuant to  
14 this subsection by the University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill shall remain the  
15 funds of the University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill, and interest or other  
16 investment income earned thereon shall be prorated and credited to the University of North  
17 Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill on the basis of the amounts thereof contributed, figured  
18 according to sound accounting principles. Fees assessed by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment  
19 Authority may be used to defray the cost of administering investments pursuant to this subsection  
20 and expenditures authorized under this section.

21 (b4) In addition to the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) of this  
22 section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited pursuant to  
23 subdivision (17g) of subsection (a) of this section in any of the investments authorized under  
24 subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this ~~section, notwithstanding the percentage limitations~~  
25 ~~imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments therein.~~ section. Funds deposited pursuant to  
26 this subsection by a Local Government Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust and interest or  
27 other investment income earned from those funds shall be prorated and credited to the  
28 contributing trust on the basis of the amounts contributed, figured according to sound accounting  
29 principles. For investments under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this section, the ~~State~~  
30 ~~Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit of up to one hundred thousand  
31 dollars (\$100,000) and may assess reasonable fees of up to 15 basis points per annum as a  
32 condition of participation pursuant to this subsection. Fees assessed by the ~~State Treasurer~~  
33 Investment Authority may be used to defray the costs of administering the Fund and expenditures  
34 authorized under this section.

35 (b5) In addition to the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) of this  
36 section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited in the Local  
37 Government Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance Fund in any of the investments  
38 authorized under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this ~~section, notwithstanding the percentage~~  
39 ~~limitations imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments therein.~~ section. For investments  
40 from that Fund made under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this section, the ~~State Treasurer~~  
41 Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars  
42 (\$100,000) and may assess reasonable fees of up to 15 basis points per annum as a condition of  
43 making the investment. The fee may be used to defray the costs of administering the Fund and  
44 expenditures authorized under this section.

45 (b6) In addition to the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) of this  
46 section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited in the Catawba  
47 Unit No. 1 Decommissioning Trust Fund and the Catawba Unit No. 2 Decommissioning Trust  
48 Fund in any of the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this ~~section,~~  
49 ~~notwithstanding the percentage limitations imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments~~  
50 ~~therein.~~ section. For investments from the Funds made under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of  
51 this section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit of up to

1 one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) and may assess reasonable fees of up to 15 basis points  
2 per annum as a condition of making the investment. The fee may be used to defray the costs of  
3 administering the Fund and expenditures authorized under this section.

4 (b7) In addition to the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) of this  
5 section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited in the Swain  
6 County Settlement Trust Fund in any of the investments authorized under subdivision (b)(8) of  
7 this section, ~~notwithstanding the percentage limitations imposed on the Retirement Systems'~~  
8 ~~investments therein.~~ section. For investments from that Fund made under subdivision (b)(8) of  
9 this section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit of up to  
10 one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) and may assess reasonable fees of up to 15 basis points  
11 per annum as a condition of making the investment. The fee may be used to defray the costs of  
12 administering the Fund and expenditures authorized under this section.

13 (b8) In addition to the investments authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) of this  
14 section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited pursuant to  
15 subdivision (24) of subsection (a) of this section in any of the investments authorized under  
16 subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this section, notwithstanding the percentage limitations  
17 imposed on the Retirement Systems' investments therein. For investments from that Fund made  
18 under subdivisions (b)(6c) and (b)(8) of this section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority  
19 may require a minimum deposit of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and may assess  
20 reasonable fees of up to 15 basis points per annum as a condition of making the investment. The  
21 fee may be used to defray the costs of administering investments and expenditures authorized  
22 under this section.

23 ...

24 (d) The ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest funds deposited pursuant to  
25 subdivisions (17i), (17j), (17k), (17l), and (17n) of subsection (a) of this section in any of the  
26 investments authorized under subdivisions (1) through (6) and subdivision (8) of subsection (b)  
27 of this section. The ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may require a minimum deposit, up to  
28 one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), and may assess a reasonable fee, not to exceed 15 basis  
29 points, as a condition of participation pursuant to this subsection. Fees assessed by the ~~State~~  
30 ~~Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may be used to defray the costs of administering the funds and  
31 expenditures authorized under this section. Funds deposited pursuant to this subsection shall  
32 remain the funds of the North Carolina Conservation Easement Endowment Fund, the  
33 Conservation Grant Fund, the Ecosystem Restoration Fund, the Riparian Buffer Restoration  
34 Fund, or the Wildlife Endowment Fund, as applicable, and interest or other investment income  
35 earned thereon shall be prorated and credited to the North Carolina Conservation Easement  
36 Endowment Fund, the Conservation Grant Fund, the Ecosystem Restoration Fund, the Riparian  
37 Buffer Restoration Fund, or the Wildlife Endowment Fund on the basis of the amounts  
38 contributed to the respective Funds, figured according to sound accounting principles.

39 (e) Investments made pursuant to this section may be made as internally managed  
40 investments by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority or may be made through third-party  
41 investment management arrangements, under the following conditions:

- 42 (1) Internally managed portfolios shall be subject to industry standard portfolio  
43 ~~guidelines developed with periodic consultation by the Investment Advisory~~  
44 ~~Committee guidelines.~~
- 45 (2) In assessing whether to invest directly or to utilize indirect third-party  
46 investment management arrangements, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment  
47 Authority shall consider all relevant material factors ~~he or she considers~~  
48 ~~relevant to the decision~~ consistent with the ~~Treasurer's~~ Investment Authority's  
49 fiduciary duties under ~~G.S. 147-69.7, G.S. 147-70.6,~~ including financial,  
50 operational, and investment expertise and resources, alignment of interests



1 and investor protections, transparency and repeatability of investment process,  
2 risk controls, and cost-effectiveness.

3 ~~(3) For any third party investment management arrangements, the investment~~  
4 ~~manager must have total assets under management of at least one hundred~~  
5 ~~million dollars (\$100,000,000) at the inception of the investment management~~  
6 ~~arrangement with the State Treasurer.~~

7 (4) Third-party investment management arrangements may be with persons and  
8 legal entities located within or outside the United States, including through  
9 any of the following:

10 a. Contractual arrangements in which the investment manager has  
11 delegated discretion and authority to invest assets.

12 b. Investment companies as defined under United States generally  
13 accepted accounting principles as promulgated by the Financial  
14 Accounting Standards Board, including without limitation entities  
15 registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940; individual,  
16 common, or collective trust funds of banks and trust companies;  
17 limited partnerships; limited liability companies or other limited  
18 liability investment vehicles; and insurance contracts that provide for  
19 participation in individual or pooled separate accounts of insurance  
20 companies.

21 Any limited liability investment vehicles organized by the ~~State Treasurer~~  
22 ~~Investment Authority~~ shall be deemed investment companies for the purposes  
23 of this ~~subsection~~ subdivision.

24 (5) Investment companies shall provide annual audited financial statements to the  
25 ~~State Treasurer, Investment Authority,~~ unless the ~~State Treasurer Investment~~  
26 ~~Authority~~ waives the requirement after conducting a cost-benefit analysis.

27 (6) In connection with any investment otherwise authorized under this section,  
28 the ~~State Treasurer Investment Authority~~ may enter into an indemnification  
29 agreement provided that, under any agreement, the liability of the ~~State~~  
30 ~~Treasurer Investment Authority~~ will be limited to the amount of the ~~State~~  
31 ~~Treasurer's Investment Authority's~~ contractual investment.

32 **"§ 147-69.2A. Investments; special funds held by the State Treasurer.**

33 (a) Firm to Administer ~~Special Fund.~~ — ~~Following a public procurement process, a~~  
34 ~~designee of the Governor, a designee of the State Treasurer, a designee of the Speaker of the~~  
35 ~~House of Representatives, and a designee of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall jointly~~  
36 ~~and unanimously~~ Venture Capital Multiplier Fund. — The Investment Authority may select  
37 a third-party professional investment management firm, subject to the rules and regulations of the  
38 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, to administer a special fund created to invest assets  
39 described in G.S. 147-69.2(b)(12)e. of the Escheats Fund and select investment opportunities  
40 appropriate for receiving allocations from the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund on the basis of  
41 potential return on investment and the risks attendant thereto. The State Treasurer Investment  
42 Authority shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the oversight of the Venture  
43 Capital Multiplier Fund. All costs for the third-party investment management firm and the  
44 professional and clerical staff shall be borne by the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund pursuant to  
45 G.S. 147-69.3(f). The State Treasurer Investment Authority shall discharge his or her-its duties  
46 with respect to the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund as a fiduciary consistent with  
47 G.S. 147-69.7.G.S. 147-70.6.

48 (b) Organization and Reporting. — ~~All documents of the Governor or the State Treasurer~~  
49 ~~concerning the Fund are public records governed by Chapter 132 of the General Statutes and any~~  
50 ~~applicable provisions of the General Statutes protecting confidential information.~~

1       ~~The State Treasurer and the Governor shall jointly~~ The Investment Authority shall develop  
2 and adopt an investment policy statement for the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund.

3       ~~The State Treasurer and Governor shall jointly adopt a common policy to prevent conflicts~~  
4 ~~of interests such that (i) the designees of the State Treasurer and Governor who selected the~~  
5 ~~third party investment management firm, (ii) the staff of the State Treasurer overseeing the Fund,~~  
6 ~~and (iii) the third party investment management firm's employees selecting or overseeing Fund~~  
7 ~~investments do not provide services for compensation (as an employee, consultant, or otherwise),~~  
8 ~~within two years after the end of their service to the Fund, to any entity in which an investment~~  
9 ~~from the Fund was made.~~

10       **(b1) Conflict of Interest Policy.** – The Investment Authority shall adopt a policy to prevent  
11 conflicts of interest. This policy shall include a provision prohibiting all of the following  
12 individuals from providing services for compensation to any entity in which an investment from  
13 the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund was made within two years after the end of that individual's  
14 service to the Fund:

- 15           (1) The designee of the State Treasurer and Governor who selected the third-party  
16 investment management firm prior to the creation of the Investment Authority.
- 17           (2) The designee of the Investment Authority who selected the third-party  
18 investment management firm.
- 19           (3) The staff of the Department of State Treasurer or of the Investment Authority  
20 overseeing the Fund.
- 21           (4) The third-party investment management firm's employees selecting or  
22 overseeing Fund investments.

23       **(c) Types of Investments.** – Assets of the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund may be  
24 invested in those types of investments authorized for the North Carolina Retirement Systems by  
25 G.S. 147-69.2(b), notwithstanding the percentage limitations imposed on the Retirement  
26 Systems' investments under those subdivisions. G.S. 147-69.2(b).

27       **(d) Report on Escheat Fund Financial Status.** – The State Treasurer–Treasurer, in  
28 coordination with the Investment Authority, shall engage a third-party professional consultant to  
29 conduct an assessment and projection of the financial status of the Escheat Fund. A third-party  
30 professional consultant may be engaged to conduct the required assessment. The associated costs  
31 for the services may be directly charged to the Escheat Fund. ~~The~~ No later than December 31 of  
32 each year, the State Treasurer shall communicate the assessment ~~of the consultant~~ in an annual  
33 report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore  
34 of the Senate, and the chairs of the respective appropriations and appropriate substantive  
35 committees of each chamber. The annual report shall ~~evaluate~~ include all of the following:

- 36           (1) An evaluation of claims by owners upon the Escheat Fund, current and  
37 projected investment returns, ~~and~~ projected contributions to the Escheat Fund,  
38 current and projected legislative appropriations, and authorized expenses. ~~In~~  
39 the report, the State Treasurer shall assess
- 40           (2) An assessment of the State Treasurer, with the assistance of the Investment  
41 Authority of the status of utilizing the Escheat Fund as an endowment fund  
42 and ~~shall recommend~~ a recommendation of an annual amount available for the  
43 funding of scholarships, loans, and grants from the Fund. ~~The annual report~~  
44 shall be presented no later than December 31 of each year.

45 **"§ 147-69.2E. Investments in digital assets.**

46       **(a)** The following definitions apply in this section:

- 47           (1) Designated funds. – Any of the funds described in G.S. 147-69.1(b) and  
48 G.S. 147-69.2(a).
- 49           (2) Digital asset. – A virtual currency, cryptocurrency, native electronic asset,  
50 stablecoin, nonfungible token, or any other asset that is only digital and that  
51 confers economic, proprietary, or access rights or powers.

- 1           (3) Private key. – A unique element of cryptographic data used for signing  
2           transactions on a blockchain that is known to the owner of the unique element.  
3           (4) Secure custody solution. – A technological product or a blended product and  
4           service that employs advanced security measures to safeguard private keys  
5           and prevent unauthorized access.

6           (b) The Investment Authority may invest the cash of the designated funds in digital assets  
7 only after approval by the Board of Directors. The approval shall be based on an independent  
8 assessment by a third-party consultant that all of the following requirements for proposed  
9 investments have been met:

- 10           (1) The digital assets are maintained with a secure custody solution.  
11           (2) The risk and reward profile, including under adverse scenarios, is appropriate  
12 for the designated fund's circumstances from a total portfolio perspective.  
13           (3) The control environment meets institutional investment industry requirements  
14 for independent risk and compliance oversight, operational robustness, and  
15 regulatory compliance.

16           (c) An investment in digital assets from any of the designated funds shall not exceed, in  
17 the aggregate, five percent (5%) of the balance of the designated fund for an initial period of time  
18 that is set by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall annually review the percentage  
19 limit on digital assets investments and may raise or lower the limit after the initial period.

20 **"§ 147-69.3. Administration of State Treasurer's Investment Authority's investment**  
21 **programs.**

22           (a) The State Treasurer shall deposit with the Investment Authority assets of the funds  
23 under G.S. 147-69.1 and the special funds under G.S. 147-69.2. The Investment Authority shall  
24 establish, maintain, administer, manage, and operate within the Department of State Treasurer  
25 one or more investment programs for the deposit and to the credit of the State Treasurer of the  
26 investment of assets pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 147-69.1 and G.S. 147-69.2. Different of  
27 the funds under G.S. 147-69.1 and the special funds under G.S. 147-69.2. Funds of each of the  
28 Retirement Systems and other funds held by the State Treasurer Investment Authority may be  
29 invested collectively or separately in the State Treasurer's Investment Authority's discretion  
30 consistent with the fiduciary duties stated in G.S. 147-69.7 under G.S. 147-70.6.

31           (b) Any official, board, commission, other public authority, local government, school  
32 administrative unit, charter school, local ABC board, or community college of the State having  
33 custody of any funds not required by law to be deposited with and invested by the State Treasurer  
34 or the Investment Authority may deposit all or any portion of those funds with the State Treasurer  
35 Investment Authority for investment in one of the investment programs established pursuant to  
36 authorized under this section, subject to any provisions of law with respect to eligible  
37 investments, provided that any investments. Any occupational licensing board as defined in  
38 G.S. 93B-1 may participate in one of the investment programs established pursuant to authorized  
39 under this section regardless of whether or not the funds were required by law to be deposited  
40 with and invested by the State Treasurer. Treasurer or the Investment Authority. In the absence  
41 of specific statutory provisions to the contrary, any of those funds described in this subsection  
42 may be invested by the Investment Authority in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 147-69.2  
43 and 147-69.3. Upon request from any depositor eligible under this subsection, the State Treasurer  
44 may authorize moneys invested pursuant to this subsection to be withdrawn by warrant on the  
45 State Treasurer.

46           (c) The State Treasurer's Investment Authority's investment programs shall be so  
47 managed that that, in the judgment of the State Treasurer Investment Authority, funds may be  
48 readily converted into cash when needed.

49           (d) Except as provided by G.S. 147-69.1(d), the total return earned on investments shall  
50 accrue pro rata to the fund whose assets are invested according to the formula prescribed by the  
51 State Treasurer with the approval of the Governor and Council of State invested.

1 (e) ~~The State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority has full powers as a fiduciary to hold,  
2 purchase, sell, assign, transfer, lend and dispose of any of the securities or investments in which  
3 any of the investment programs created pursuant to this section have been invested, and may  
4 reinvest the proceeds from the sale of those securities or investments and any other investable  
5 assets of the program.

6 (f) The cost of administration, management, and operation of investment programs  
7 established pursuant to this section shall be apportioned and paid equitably among the programs  
8 in a manner prescribed by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority, including through  
9 administrative fees if approved by the Board of Directors. To the extent not otherwise chargeable  
10 directly to the income or assets of a specific investment program or pooled investment vehicle,  
11 the cost of administration, management, and operation of investment programs established  
12 pursuant to this section shall be paid from the income and assets of the investment programs.  
13 Any apportionment and payment under this section shall be accounted for in a manner determined  
14 by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority.

15 (g) ~~The State Treasurer is authorized to retain the services of independent appraisers,~~  
16 ~~auditors, actuaries, attorneys, investment counseling firms, statisticians, custodians, or other~~  
17 ~~persons or firms possessing specialized skills or knowledge necessary for the proper~~  
18 ~~administration of investment programs created pursuant to this section.~~

19 (g1) Notwithstanding G.S. 114-8.3, the Investment Authority's designated attorneys shall  
20 review all proposed investment contracts and all proposed contracts for investment-related  
21 services entered into pursuant to the Investment Authority's authority under this Article. All of  
22 the following apply to the required review:

23 (1) This review shall include confirmation that a proposed contract meets all of  
24 the following criteria:

25 a. The proposed contract is in proper legal form.

26 b. The proposed contract is legally enforceable to the extent governed by  
27 North Carolina law.

28 c. The proposed contract accomplishes the intended purposes of the  
29 contract.

30 (2) The Investment Authority's designated attorneys shall establish procedures  
31 regarding the review.

32 (3) The required review does not constitute approval or disapproval of the policy  
33 merit, or lack thereof, of the proposed contract.

34 (4) A designated attorney under this subsection includes any attorney employed  
35 or retained by the Investment Authority to review contracts as required by this  
36 subsection.

37 (5) For purposes of this subsection, "investment contract" means investments to  
38 be acquired, held, or sold, directly or indirectly, by or for the Investment  
39 Authority or an investment entity created by the Investment Authority, either  
40 on its own behalf or on behalf of another beneficial owner.

41 ...

42 (i1) ~~The State Treasurer shall report the incentive bonus paid to the Chief Investment~~  
43 ~~Officer to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by October 1 of each~~  
44 ~~year.~~

45 ...

46 (i3) ~~The Treasurer~~ Investment Authority may invest in the countries of Sudan and South  
47 Sudan to the extent not prohibited by the United States Government, or to the extent that such  
48 investment is part of an index or index replication strategy, a commingled fund, limited  
49 partnership, or similar investment vehicle, or a derivative instrument.

50 (j) Subject to the provisions of G.S. 147-69.1(d), the ~~State Treasurer shall~~ Investment  
51 Authority may adopt any rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

1 ...

2 **"§ 147-69.4A. Support and assistance; Supplemental Retirement Board of Trustees.**

3 (a) The Supplemental Retirement Board of Trustees, as established under G.S. 135-96,  
4 may request the Investment Authority to provide monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and other  
5 support or assistance for the investments of the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan of North  
6 Carolina and the North Carolina Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan.

7 (b) Upon the consent of the Investment Authority to provide requested support or  
8 assistance under this section, the Investment Authority's responsibilities shall be documented in  
9 a Statement of Investment Policy approved by the Supplemental Retirement Board of Trustees.

10 (c) In providing any support or assistance under this section, the Investment Authority  
11 shall discharge its duties as a fiduciary to the participants in the Supplemental Retirement Income  
12 Plan of North Carolina and the North Carolina Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan.

13 **"§ 147-69.5. Local Government Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance Fund.**

14 The Local Government Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance Fund is established  
15 as a fund in the Office of the State Treasurer under the management of the ~~Treasurer~~-Investment  
16 Authority. The Fund consists of contributions made by entities authorized to make contributions  
17 to the Fund and interest and other investment income earned by the Fund. Contributions to the  
18 Fund are irrevocable. Assets of the Fund may be used only to provide law enforcement special  
19 separation allowance benefits to individuals who are former employees of a unit of local  
20 government that contributes to the Fund and are entitled to law enforcement special separation  
21 allowance payable by the unit. The assets of the Fund are not subject to the claims of creditors  
22 of an entity that contributes to the Fund.

23 **"§ 147-69.6. Swain County Settlement Trust Fund.**

24 (a) The Swain County Settlement Trust Fund is established as a special fund in the Office  
25 of the State Treasurer under the management of the ~~Treasurer~~. ~~The Treasurer~~-Investment  
26 Authority. ~~The Investment Authority~~ may invest the assets of the Fund in any of the investments  
27 authorized under subdivisions (b)(1) through (6) and subdivision (b)(8) of G.S. 147-69.2. The  
28 Fund shall consist of the proceeds of any payments made by the United States in settlement of  
29 the 1943 agreement between Swain County and the United States Department of Interior, such  
30 other contributions as Swain County or other entities may choose to make to the Fund, and the  
31 interest and other investment income earned by the Fund. For the purposes of this section, the  
32 initial balance of the Fund shall be defined as fifty-two million dollars (\$52,000,000).

33 ...."

34 **SECTION 3.1.(b)** Part 3 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes, as  
35 created and amended by Part I of this act, reads as rewritten:

36 "Part 3. Reports and Audits.

37 **"§ 147-69.8. Annual report on new investment authority.**

38 Whenever the General Assembly broadens the investment authority of the ~~State Treasurer~~  
39 Investment Authority as to the General Fund, the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement  
40 System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, the Firefighters' and Rescue Squad  
41 Workers' Pension Fund, the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System, the Legislative  
42 Retirement System, the North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund, or any idle funds, the ~~State~~  
43 ~~Treasurer~~-Investment Authority shall annually report in detail to the General Assembly the  
44 investments made under such new authority, including the returns on those investments, earnings,  
45 changes to value, and gains and losses in disposition of such investments. The report shall be  
46 made no later than the first six months of each calendar year, covering performance in the prior  
47 fiscal year. As to each type of new investment authority, the report shall be made for at least four  
48 years. To the extent the information required by this section is also required in the reports under  
49 G.S. 147-69.12, the ~~State Treasurer~~-Investment Authority may combine reports or make  
50 cross-reference to those reports.

51 **"§ 147-69.9. Third-party audit of State Treasurer's investments.**

1 (a) In addition to all other audits and reports required by the law, the State ~~Treasurer~~  
2 Treasurer, with the active assistance of the Investment Authority, shall prepare and issue, at the  
3 end of each fiscal year ~~beginning with the 2015-2016 fiscal year, year,~~ a set of consolidated  
4 stand-alone financial statements regarding investments authorized in G.S. 147-69.1 and  
5 G.S. 147-69.2. These financial statements shall be audited by a commercial independent  
6 third-party audit firm selected and engaged by the State ~~Treasurer~~. Treasurer, in consultation with  
7 the Investment Authority. The audit firm's report and the financial statement shall be provided to  
8 the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the House of Representative  
9 Appropriations Committee, the Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, and the Fiscal  
10 Research Division within six months after the closing of the reporting period.

11 (b) The management discussion and analysis section of the report accompanying the  
12 financial statements shall be prepared by the Investment Authority and shall include a discussion  
13 of the investment programs' risk and returns compared to benchmarks, total management fees  
14 and incentives paid, and comparison to peer cost benchmarks.

15 **"§ 147-69.10. Investment policies and performance reviews of Retirement Systems**  
16 **investment programs.**

17 (a) On at least a biennial basis, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Chief Investment Officer shall present  
18 an investment policy statement to the ~~Investment Advisory Committee~~ Board of Directors for the  
19 ~~Committee's consultation, approval.~~ The investment policy statement must include descriptions  
20 of investment objectives and strategy, roles and responsibilities, permissible asset classes, asset  
21 allocation targets and ranges, risk management and compliance guidelines, and evaluation  
22 criteria necessary to measure investment performance.

23 (b) At least once every four years, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall engage  
24 a commercial independent expert firm, pursuant to ~~G.S. 147-69.3(g), G.S. 147-71.2(c),~~ to  
25 evaluate the governance, operations, and investment practices of the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment  
26 Authority in order to develop recommendations for improvement. ~~The State Treasurer must~~  
27 ~~consult with the Investment Advisory Committee to develop the scope of the evaluation.~~ The  
28 report of the independent expert firm shall be provided to the Joint Legislative Commission on  
29 Governmental Operations, the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the Senate  
30 Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division within 30 days of  
31 receipt.

32 **"§ 147-69.12. Reporting on the State Treasurer's Investment Authority's investment**  
33 **programs.**

34 (a) ~~No later than the tenth day of February, May, August, and November of each year,~~  
35 ~~the State Treasurer shall report on all investments for which the State Treasurer is in any way~~  
36 ~~responsible, including investments made from the Escheat Fund and return on investment as~~  
37 ~~provided in G.S. 147-69.2A. This report shall be made for the Escheat Fund in lieu of the report~~  
38 ~~required by G.S. 147-69.8. The State Treasurer's quarterly report shall include each of the~~  
39 ~~following:~~

- 40 (1) ~~A specific listing of all direct and indirect placement fees, asset fees,~~  
41 ~~performance fees, and any other money management fees incurred by the~~  
42 ~~State in the management of the Retirement Systems defined in~~  
43 ~~G.S. 147-69.2(b)(8). In the event that the market value of any of subdivision~~  
44 ~~(6c) or (7), sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (8), or subdivision (9) or (9a) of~~  
45 ~~G.S. 147-69.2 increases during a fiscal year by an amount greater than three~~  
46 ~~percent (3%) of the market value of all invested assets of the Retirement~~  
47 ~~Systems as of the prior fiscal year end, then the quarterly report provided shall~~  
48 ~~describe how that increase complies with the duties described in~~  
49 ~~G.S. 147-69.7 and the consequent expected impact on the risk profile of the~~  
50 ~~Retirement Systems' assets.~~

- 1           (2)    A specific listing of all investments made with certified green managers and  
2           companies and funds that support sustainable practices, including the names  
3           of the companies, managers, and funds, the amount invested, and the State's  
4           return on investment.
- 5           (3)    For bank balances:  
6           a.     The State's total bank balance with the State Treasurer, including the  
7           amount of cash on hand and money on deposit.  
8           b.     For each bank or other qualified depository utilized by the State  
9           Treasurer to hold cash balances, (i) the name of each depository and  
10          (ii) current quarter end cash balances.
- 11          (4)    For the State Treasurer's cash management programs:  
12          a.     Total assets.  
13          b.     Duration of investments.  
14          c.     Rate of return, including a comparison to an appropriate benchmark,  
15          if available.
- 16          (5)    For the Retirement Systems, as defined in G.S. 147-69.2(b)(8), reported  
17          separately for each asset class authorized by G.S. 147-69.2(b):  
18          a.     Total assets.  
19          b.     Rate of return, including a comparison to an appropriate benchmark,  
20          if available.  
21          c.     Percentage of the total assets that are invested in the asset class and the  
22          limitation, if any, on the percentage under G.S. 147-69.2(b).
- 23          (6)    For each investment program created under G.S. 147-69.3:  
24          a.     The financial condition of each investment program.  
25          b.     A full and complete statement of all moneys invested by virtue of the  
26          provisions of G.S. 147-69.1 and G.S. 147-69.2.  
27          c.     The nature and character of the investments.  
28          d.     The revenues derived from the investments, net of fees and expenses.  
29          e.     The costs of administering, managing, and operating the investment  
30          programs, including the recapture of any investment commissions.  
31          f.     The location on the State Treasurer's Web site where the public may  
32          find a statement of the investment policies for the revenues invested.  
33          g.     Any other information that may be helpful in understanding the State  
34          Treasurer's investment policies, investment practices, and investment  
35          results.  
36          h.     Any other information requested by the House of Representatives and  
37          Senate Finance Committees.  
38          i.     The location on the State Treasurer's Web site where the public may  
39          find a list of new commitments to external investment managers.  
40          j.     The location on the State Treasurer's Web site where the public may  
41          find information on the use of placement agents by investment  
42          managers.
- 43          (7)    For all other investments with or on behalf of the State or any of its agencies  
44          or institutions:  
45          a.     The particular agency or institution, fund, rate of return, and duration  
46          of the investment.  
47          b.     The amount of deposit on all noninterest bearing accounts.
- 48          (a1)   On a monthly basis, the Investment Authority shall report on the performance of all  
49          investments for which the Investment Authority is in any way responsible. The monthly report  
50          shall include all of the following information:

- 1           (1)    The beginning and ending market value of each investment program and  
2           deposits or withdrawals.
- 3           (2)    The rate of return, net of all fees, and expenses for various time periods,  
4           including comparisons to an appropriate benchmark, if available. For the  
5           Retirement Systems' investment program, asset class level information shall  
6           also be provided.
- 7           (3)    The asset allocation of each investment program and compliance with any  
8           statutory limitations or limitations set by the Board of Directors.
- 9           (4)    All of the following information for each investment program:
- 10          a.     The location on the Investment Authority's website where the public  
11          may find a statement of the investment policies.
- 12          b.     The location on the Department's or Investment Authority's website  
13          where the public may find a list of new commitments to external  
14          investment managers and on the use of placement agents by  
15          investment managers.
- 16          c.     Any other information that may be helpful in understanding the  
17          Investment Authority's investment policies, investment practices, and  
18          investment results.
- 19          (b)    No later than the date set by G.S. 147-69.9 for the submission of consolidated  
20          stand-alone financial statements, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall report annually  
21          on the fees and performance of all externally and internally managed investments for the  
22          ~~Retirement Systems defined in G.S. 147-69.2(b)(8). Systems.~~ Externally managed investments  
23          shall be reported on the basis of each investment vehicle or investment manager, as applicable.  
24          Internally managed investments shall be reported on a portfolio-by-portfolio basis. The ~~State~~  
25          ~~Treasurer's Investment Authority's~~ annual report shall include all of the following, as applicable,  
26          reported separately for each investment:
- 27               (1)    The name, commitment amount, statutory classification, and inception year.
- 28               (2)    Either a statement that the investment is managed internally by the staff of the  
29               ~~State Treasurer Investment Authority~~ or the names of the external investment  
30               manager and the investment vehicle for that investment.
- 31               (3)    ~~Value~~ The value of the investment.
- 32               (4)    ~~Dollar~~ The dollar amount of the management fees and incentive fees.
- 33               (5)    For ~~investment grade fixed income or public equity investments, public~~  
34               ~~market investment manager accounts,~~ the periodic net annualized  
35               time-weighted rate of return for that fiscal year and since inception, reported  
36               net of fees.
- 37               (6)    For all investments other than ~~investment grade fixed income or public equity~~  
38               ~~investments, public market investment manager accounts,~~ all of the following:
- 39                   a.     The net annualized internal rate of return and investment multiple  
40                   since inception, reported net of fees.
- 41                   b.     The total cash contributions or other investments ~~made by the State~~  
42                   ~~Treasurer made.~~
- 43                   c.     The total distribution received ~~by the State Treasurer~~ with respect to  
44                   that investment since inception, reported net of fees.
- 45               (7)    ~~For any fund of funds investment vehicles, the aggregate management fees~~  
46               ~~and incentive fees for the underlying investment managers or investment~~  
47               ~~vehicles used by the external investment manager.~~
- 48               (8)    If any placement agent fees relating to the investment were directly or  
49               indirectly borne by the ~~State Treasurer Investment Authority~~ or Retirement  
50               Systems, a list of the amount and type of those fees.



1 (c) The Treasurer shall report to the Governor annually the exact balance in the treasury  
2 to the credit of the State, with a summary of the receipts and payments of the treasury during the  
3 preceding fiscal year, and so far as practicable an account of the same down to the termination  
4 of the current calendar year.

5 (d) The reports required by this section shall be delivered to the Joint Legislative  
6 Commission on Governmental Operations, chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate  
7 Appropriations Committees, chairs of the House of Representative and Senate Finance  
8 Committees, Fiscal Research Division, Governor, Council of State, and State Auditor. The  
9 reports shall also be made available for public review, ~~including by posting on the State  
10 Treasurer's Web site.~~

11 ~~A copy of a report on any State Treasurer investment program shall be sent to review by the~~  
12 ~~official, institution, board, commission, or other agency investing in that program.~~ the programs,  
13 including by posting on the Investment Authority's website."

14 **SECTION 3.1.(c)** G.S. 147-70.6, as created and amended by Part I of this act, and  
15 as further amended by Section 2.2 of this act, reads as rewritten:

16 "**§ 147-70.6. Discharge of duties to funds.**

17 (a) ~~The State Treasurer Investment Authority, including the Board of Directors,~~ shall  
18 discharge ~~his or her~~ all duties with respect to each fund or investment program held by the  
19 Investment Authority to the credit of the State Treasurer, including each of the funds, funds  
20 enumerated in ~~G.S. 147-69.2 as follows:~~ G.S. 147-69.1 and G.S. 147-69.2, in all of the following  
21 manners:

- 22 (1) Solely in the interest of the intended beneficiaries of the fund, if any.
- 23 (2) For the exclusive purpose of carrying out the purpose of the fund, including  
24 providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries, and paying reasonable  
25 expenses of administering the fund.
- 26 (3) With the care, skill, and caution that a prudent investor would use after  
27 considering the purposes, distribution requirements, and other circumstances  
28 then prevailing.
- 29 (4) Impartially, taking into account any differing interests of participants and  
30 beneficiaries.
- 31 (5) Incurring only costs that are appropriate and reasonable.
- 32 (6) In accordance with a good-faith interpretation of the provisions of  
33 G.S. 147-69.2 and any other applicable law governing the fund.

34 (b) In investing and managing assets of ~~the any fund or investment program~~ pursuant to  
35 subsection (a) of this section, the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority shall do all of the  
36 following:

- 37 (1) ~~Shall consider~~ Consider all of the following circumstances:
  - 38 a. General economic conditions.
  - 39 b. The possible effect of inflation or deflation.
  - 40 c. The role that each investment or course of action plays within the  
41 overall portfolio of the fund.
  - 42 d. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of capital.
  - 43 e. Needs for liquidity, regularity of income, and preservation or  
44 appreciation of capital.
  - 45 f. With respect to the Retirement Systems ~~defined in G.S. 147-69.2(b)(8)~~  
46 and any other pension plans, the adequacy of funding for the  
47 Retirement Systems or other pension plan based on reasonable  
48 actuarial factors.
  - 49 g. The purpose of the fund, if established.
- 50 (2) ~~Shall diversify~~ Diversify the investments of the fund ~~fund,~~ unless the State  
51 ~~Treasurer~~ Investment Authority reasonably determines that, because of

1 special circumstances, including applicable investment restrictions, it is  
2 clearly prudent not to do so.

3 (3) ~~Shall make~~ Make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to the investment  
4 and management of assets of the funds.

5 (4) ~~Shall invest only in those investments authorized by law consistent with the~~  
6 ~~provisions of Article 6 of Chapter 146 of the General Statutes.~~

7 (5) ~~Shall, in~~ In the evaluation of an investment, or in the evaluation or exercise of  
8 any right appurtenant to an investment, consider only pecuniary  
9 ~~factors;~~ factors as follows:

10 a. For the purposes of this section, a pecuniary factor is a factor that has  
11 a material effect on the financial risk or financial return of an  
12 investment based on appropriate investment horizons consistent with  
13 the purpose of the fund, if established.

14 b. Environmental or social considerations are pecuniary factors only if  
15 they present economic risks or opportunities that qualified investment  
16 professionals would treat as material economic considerations under  
17 generally accepted investment theories. The weight given to those  
18 factors shall solely reflect a prudent assessment of their impact on risk  
19 and return.

20 ~~(6)~~ May,

21 (b1) In investing and managing assets of any fund or investment program pursuant to  
22 subsection (a) of this section, the Investment Authority may, in the evaluation or exercise of any  
23 right appurtenant to an investment, reasonably conclude that not exercising such a that right is in  
24 the best interest of the fund's beneficiaries.

25 (c) Compliance by the ~~State Treasurer~~ Investment Authority with this section must be  
26 determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at the time of the ~~Treasurer's~~  
27 Investment Authority's decision or action and not by hindsight.

28 (d) The ~~State Treasurer's~~ Investment Authority's investment and management decisions  
29 must be evaluated not in isolation but in the context of the portfolio of the fund as a whole and  
30 as part of an overall investment strategy having risk and return objectives reasonably suited to  
31 the fund.

32 (e) ~~Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the State Treasurer other provision of this~~  
33 section to the contrary, the Investment Authority shall have no duty to assist or advise any  
34 official, board, commission, local government, other public authority, school administrative unit,  
35 local ABC board, community college of the State, or other person, trust, agency, institution, or  
36 entity in connection with any of the following decisions and directions with respect to any funds  
37 to be deposited with the State Treasurer and invested by the State Treasurer:  
38 Investment Authority.

39 (1) The voluntary decision to deposit or withdraw funds in accordance with  
40 applicable law in one or more of the ~~State Treasurer's~~ Investment Authority's  
41 investment programs.

42 (2) The voluntary direction as to the allocation of deposited funds in accordance  
43 with applicable law among the ~~State Treasurer's~~ Investment Authority's  
44 investment programs.

45 (3) Any other decision or direction by which the depositor exercises control over  
46 assets deposited or to be deposited with the State Treasurer or the Investment  
47 Authority in accordance with applicable law."

48 **SECTION 3.1(d)** G.S. 147-71.2(a), as enacted by Section 2.2 of this act, is amended  
49 by adding a new subdivision to read:

50 "(6) The Board of Directors has the following liquidity monitoring duties:

- 1                   a.     Upon the quarterly receipt of liquidity monitoring requirements from
- 2                   the Chief Investment Officer, the Board of Directors shall ensure that
- 3                   a portion of the Retirement Systems' invested assets are at all times
- 4                   available to be converted in an orderly fashion to cash proceeds
- 5                   sufficient to meet projected net benefit payments and highly probable
- 6                   contractual obligations.
- 7                   b.     The Board of Directors shall annually certify the allocation of illiquid
- 8                   investment.
- 9                   c.     If the Board of Directors determines that liquidity is insufficient, then
- 10                  the Board of Directors may direct the CIO to pause new contractual
- 11                  commitments to illiquid investments or implement other mitigation
- 12                  activities."

13                   **SECTION 3.1.(e)** G.S. 147-72.1, as enacted by Section 2.2 of this act, is amended  
 14 by adding a new subsection to read:

15                   "**(e) Management of Retirement Systems Investments.** – The Chief Investment Officer  
 16 shall manage the Retirement Systems investments to remain within the approved absolute risk  
 17 operating range set by the Board of Directors in accordance with G.S. 147-71.2(a)(4)."

18                   **SECTION 3.2.** Rules adopted by the State Treasurer in effect as of December 31,  
 19 2025, and that are impacted by the change in authority under this Part shall remain in effect until  
 20 amended by the Investment Authority, amended by law, or repealed.

21                   **SECTION 3.3.** This Part is effective January 1, 2026.

22  
 23 **PART IV. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES**

24                   **SECTION 4.1.(a)** G.S. 147-65.2, as created by Section 1.2(a) of this act, reads as  
 25 rewritten:

26 "**§ 147-65.2. Salary of State Treasurer, Treasurer and certain Department employees.**

27                   (a) State Treasurer. – The salary of the State Treasurer shall be as established in the  
 28 Current Operations Appropriations Act. In addition to the salary set by the General Assembly in  
 29 the Current Operations Appropriations Act, longevity pay shall be paid on the same basis as is  
 30 provided to employees of the State who are subject to the North Carolina Human Resources Act.

31                   (b) ~~In order to promote achievement of long-term investment objectives and to retain key~~  
 32 ~~public employees with investment functions, the~~ Certain Departmental Employees. – The State  
 33 Treasurer is authorized to establish, consistent with the duties of the State Treasurer's fiduciary  
 34 duties, Treasurer as prescribed by law, market-oriented compensation plans, including salaries  
 35 and performance-related bonuses, for employees possessing specialized skills or knowledge  
 36 necessary for the proper administration of investment programs, who shall be programs. In  
 37 accordance with G.S. 126-5(c12), these employees are exempt from the classification and  
 38 compensation rules established by the Office of State Human Resources. The design and  
 39 administration of those compensation plans shall be based on compensation studies conducted  
 40 by a nationally recognized firm specializing in public fund investment compensation. The  
 41 compensation and other associated employee benefits shall be apportioned directly from the  
 42 investment program, and paid equitably among the funds and programs utilizing the services of  
 43 these employees in a manner prescribed by the State Treasurer. The Treasurer shall report the  
 44 salaries and bonuses paid to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government  
 45 annually."

46                   **SECTION 4.1.(b)** G.S. 126-5 reads as rewritten:

47 "**§ 126-5. Employees subject to Chapter; exemptions.**

48                   ...

49                   (c1) Except as to Articles 6 and 7 of this Chapter, this Chapter does not apply to any of the  
 50 following:

51                   ...

- 1 (23) The Executive Administrator of the State Health Plan for Teachers and State
- 2 Employees.
- 3 (24) Employees of the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees as
- 4 designated by law or by the Executive Administrator of the Plan.
- 5 ...
- 6 (40) The Chief Investment Officer of the North Carolina Investment Authority
- 7 established under Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes.
- 8 (41) Employees of the North Carolina Investment Authority established under Part
- 9 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes who possess specialized
- 10 skills or knowledge necessary for the proper administration of investment
- 11 programs and who are employed in a position designated by the Chief
- 12 Investment Officer as exempt in accordance with G.S. 147-72.1.

13 ...

14 (c12) Except as to G.S. 126-13, 126-14, 126-14.1, and Articles 6, 7, 14, 15, and 16 of this

15 Chapter, this Chapter does not apply to employees of the Department of State Treasurer

16 possessing specialized skills or knowledge necessary for the proper administration of investment

17 programs and compensated pursuant to ~~G.S. 147-69.3(i2)~~-G.S. 147-65.2(b).

18 ...."

19 **SECTION 4.1.(c)** This section is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to employees

20 hired on or after that date.

21 **SECTION 4.2.(a)** G.S. 128-29(c) reads as rewritten:

22 "(c) Custodian of Funds. – The State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the several funds

23 and shall deposit these funds with the Investment Authority to invest ~~their~~ these assets in

24 accordance with ~~the provisions of G.S. 147-69.2 and 147-69.3.~~ Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the

25 General Statutes. All payments from said funds shall be made by ~~him~~ the State Treasurer only

26 upon vouchers signed by two persons designated by the Board of Trustees. The secretary of the

27 Board of Trustees shall furnish said Board a surety bond in a company authorized to do business

28 in North Carolina in such amount as shall be required by the Board, the premium to be paid from

29 the expense fund."

30 **SECTION 4.2.(b)** G.S. 135-7(c) reads as rewritten:

31 "(c) Custodian of Funds; Disbursements; Bond of Director. – The State Treasurer shall be

32 the custodian of the several funds and shall deposit these funds with the Investment Authority to

33 invest ~~their~~ these assets in accordance with ~~the provisions of G.S. 147-69.2 and 147-69.3.~~ Article

34 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes."

35 **SECTION 4.2.(c)** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

36 **SECTION 4.3.(a)** G.S. 143C-1-3 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

37 "(e) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, funds under the management

38 of the North Carolina Investment Authority are exempt from this Chapter and shall be accounted

39 for as provided in Article 6 of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes."

40 **SECTION 4.3.(b)** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

41

42 **PART V. EFFECTIVE DATE**

43 **SECTION 5.1.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes

44 law.