

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

H.B. 552  
Mar 27, 2025  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10257-MC-45C

Short Title: Ag Manufacturing Economic Development. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Reives.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES TARGETED  
3 FOR AGRICULTURAL MANUFACTURING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 143B-437.71 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 143B-437.71. One North Carolina Fund established as a special revenue fund.

7 (a) Establishment. – The One North Carolina Fund is established as a special revenue  
8 fund in the Department of Commerce.

9 (b) Purposes. – Moneys in the One North Carolina Fund may only be allocated pursuant  
10 to this subsection. Moneys may be allocated to (i) local governments for use in connection with  
11 securing commitments for the recruitment, expansion, or retention of new and existing ~~businesses~~  
12 ~~and to businesses,~~ (ii) the One North Carolina Small Business Account created pursuant to  
13 subsection (c) of this section in an amount not to exceed three million dollars (~~\$3,000,000~~),  
14 (~~\$3,000,000~~), and (iii) the Agricultural Investment Grant Account created pursuant to subsection  
15 (d) of this section in an amount not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000). Moneys in the  
16 One North Carolina Fund allocated to local governments shall be used for the following purposes  
17 only:

- 18 (1) Installation or purchase of equipment.
- 19 (2) Structural repairs, improvements, or renovations to existing buildings to be  
20 used for expansion.
- 21 (3) Construction of or improvements to new or existing water, sewer, gas, or  
22 electric utility distribution lines or equipment for existing buildings.
- 23 (4) Construction of or improvements to new or existing water, sewer, gas, or  
24 electric utility distribution lines or equipment for new or proposed buildings  
25 to be used for manufacturing and industrial operations.
- 26 (5) Any other purposes specifically provided by an act of the General Assembly.

27 (b1) Awards. – The amounts committed in Governor's Letters issued in a single fiscal year  
28 may not exceed seventeen million dollars (\$17,000,000). Of the amount authorized in this  
29 subsection, three million dollars (\$3,000,000) is reserved for agreements with local governments  
30 located in development tier three areas, as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, with total employment  
31 of 115,000 or less, using the data specified in G.S. 143B-437.52(c)(3).

32 (c) One North Carolina Small Business Account. – There is created in the One North  
33 Carolina Fund a special account, the One North Carolina Small Business Account, to be used for  
34 the North Carolina SBIR/STTR Incentive Program and the North Carolina SBIR/STTR Matching  
35 Funds Program, as specified in Part 2I of Article 10 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes.



1       (d) Agricultural Manufacturing Investment Grant Account. – There is created in the One  
2 North Carolina Fund a special account, the Agricultural Manufacturing Investment Grant  
3 Account (AMIG), to be used to provide competitive grants to eligible agricultural manufacturers.  
4 The Department shall administer the program and shall prioritize grants to recipients that the  
5 Department determines will have the greatest net economic benefit at the regional and State  
6 levels. In determining priority, the Department shall give preference to a project that satisfies one  
7 or more of the following: (i) it is sited entirely within a development tier one or two area, as  
8 defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, (ii) it incorporates, in a significant amount, as determined by the  
9 Department, practices of precision agriculture, artificial-intelligence-driven automation,  
10 biotechnology, or a combination thereof, and (iii) in which research and development  
11 compensation is at least ten percent (10%) of the recipient's annual payroll expenses. Grants to a  
12 recipient under this subsection must comply with all of the following:

- 13       (1) A grant to a recipient may not exceed one hundred thousand dollars  
14 (\$100,000) in any single calendar year.
- 15       (2) A grant to a recipient may not exceed five hundred thousand dollars  
16 (\$500,000) total.
- 17       (3) The grant term may not exceed five years.
- 18       (4) The Department certifies that the recipient has invested or intends to invest at  
19 least five million dollars (\$5,000,000) of private funds in improvements to  
20 real property and additions to tangible personal property in the project within  
21 a two-year period beginning with the time the grant is awarded.
- 22       (5) The recipient employs, and agrees to maintain for the entire grant term  
23 employment of, at least 25 full-time employees or equivalent full-time  
24 contract employees at the project that is the subject of the grant at the time the  
25 grant is awarded.
- 26       (6) The recipient meets an average weekly wage that is at least equal to one  
27 hundred ten percent (110%) of the average wage for all insured private  
28 employers in the county.
- 29       (7) The Department requires the recipient to enter into an agreement requiring  
30 that the recipient (i) meet performance criteria to protect the State's investment  
31 and ensure that the projected benefits of the project are secured, including  
32 employment level requirements, compensation requirements, investment  
33 amount and time line requirements, and other criteria the Department  
34 considers appropriate and (ii) repay or reimburse an appropriate portion of the  
35 grant based on the extent of any failure to meet the performance criteria."

36       **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2025.