#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

#### **SESSION 1989**

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# SENATE BILL 231\* Appropriations Committee Substitute Adopted 7/25/89 Third Edition Engrossed 8/1/89

Short Title: Studies for 1989-90.	(Public)
Sponsors:	
Referred to:	
February 22, 1989	

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE STUDIES BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION, TO CREATE AND CONTINUE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND 3 COMMISSIONS, TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND TO 4 DIRECT VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO STUDY SPECIFIED ISSUES. 5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: 6 PART I. TITLE 7 8 Section 1. This act shall be known as "The Studies Act of 1989." 9 An outline of the provisions of the act follows this section. The outline 10 shows the heading "---CONTENTS/INDEX---"and lists by general category the 11 descriptive captions for the various sections and groups of sections that compile the act. 12 13 —-CONTENTS/INDEX—-This outline is designed for reference only, and the outline and the 14 corresponding entries throughout the act in no way limit, define, or prescribe the scope 15 or application of the text of the act. The listing of the original bill or resolution in the 16 outline of this act is for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed to have 17 incorporated by reference any of the provisions contained in the original bill or 18

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20	Sec. 2	2.1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the topics listed	
21	below. Listed v	with each topic is the 1989 bill or resolution that originally proposed the	
22	issue or study and the name of the sponsor. The Commission may consider the original		
23	bill or resolutio	n in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. The topics	
24	are:		
25	(1)	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome-AIDS (S.J.R. 74 - Marvin),	
26	(2)	State Ports-study continued (S.J.R. 96 - Barker, H.B. 133 - Hall),	
27	(3)	Solid Waste (S.J.R. 112 - Speed, S.B. 1214 - Basnight),	
28	(4)	Worker Training Trust Fund (S.B. 271 - Parnell),	
29	(5)	Tourism's Growth and Effect-study continued (S.B. 297 - Block, H.B.	
30		379 - Warren),	
31	(6)	Deregulation of Revolving Credit and Authorization of Credit Card	
32		Banks (S.B. 377 - Staton),	
33	(7)	Comprehensive Groundwater Legislation Need (S.J.R. 367 - Winner,	
34		H.B. 554 - DeVane),	
35	(8)	Public Health Services (S.B. 435 - Block),	
36	(9)	Administrative Procedure Act's Rule-Making Process (S.B. 535 -	
37		Johnson) and Office of Administrative Hearings and the	
38		Administrative Rules Review Commission (S.J.R. 1003 -Martin of	
39		Guilford, H.B. 1459 - Michaux),	
40	(10)	Medical Emergency Services (S.J.R. 880 - Harris), and Medical	
41		Services for Law Enforcement Personnel (S.B. 1303 - Marvin, H.B.	
42		1359 - Justus),	
43	(11)	" Willie M."Programs (S.J.R. 887 - Block),	
44	(12)	Statutory Rape Laws (S.B. 906 - Chalk),	

- 1 (12a) State Procurement Contracts to Minority Business Enterprises (S.B. 927 Hunt of Durham),
  - (13) Eminent Domain for Coal Slurry Pipelines (S.B. 1074 Condor),
    - (14) Toxic Materials in Medicine and Dentistry (S.B. 1171 Tally),
    - (15) Yadkin River Use and Protection (S.B. 1182 Kaplan),
    - (17) Consumer Protection Issues for the Elderly (S.B. 1261 Barker),
    - (18) State Marine Patrol (S.B. 1267 Barker),
      - (19) Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (S.J.R. 1288 Marvin),
    - (20) Sports Fishing Licenses (S.B. 1284 Barker).
    - (21) Procedures to shorten the legislative session.
  - Sec. 2.2. Local Revenue Sources Options (S.B. 1298 Odom). The Legislative Research Commission may develop proposed options for local revenue sources, including an additional one-half cent  $(1/2\phi)$  local sales and use tax, a local option county income tax on county residents and/or people who work in the county, and a local option county payroll tax and permanent source of revenue to local governments from the North Carolina income tax to replace reimbursements currently appropriated each year from the General Fund. In developing the proposals, the Commission may consider the fiscal impact of each proposal, how to simplify the administration of each proposal, how to reduce the burden on businesses, individuals, and the Department of Revenue in complying with each proposal, and other practical and legal issues associated with the proposals.
  - Sec. 2.3. Legislative Activity Between Legislative Sessions. The Legislative Research Commission may study the procedures of this, other states' and other legislative bodies' practices and procedures regulating legislative and study activity between legislative sessions and may make recommendations as to changes in law, procedures and rules that will lead to greater efficiency in the legislative process while safeguarding the rights of all members of the General Assembly and of the citizens in this State's legislative process.
  - Sec. 2.3A. State Capital Assets and Improvements (S.B. 1240 Sherron). The Legislative Research Commission may study the:
    - (1) Inventory of State capital assets and the use of those assets,
    - (2) Issue of preventive maintenance for State buildings,
    - (3) Need and feasibility of:
      - a. Establishing in the State budget a reserve for repairs and renovations and the administration of such a reserve, and
      - b. Charging rent to State agencies using State buildings.
  - Sec. 2.4. Reporting Dates. For each of the topics the Legislative Research Commission decides to study under this Part or pursuant to G.S. 120-30.17(1), the Commission may report its findings, together with any recommended legislation to the 1990 Session of the 1989 General Assembly, or the 1991 General Assembly, or both.
  - Sec. 2.5. Bills and Resolution References. The listing of the original bill or resolution in this Part is for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed to have incorporated by reference any of the substantive provisions contained in the original bill or resolution.

1 Sec. 2.6. From the funds available to the General Assembly, the Legislative 2 Services Commission shall allocate monies to fund the work of the Legislative Research 3 Commission. 4 5 PART III.—-COMMISSION ON THE FAMILY 6 Sec. 3.1. Chapter 120 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new 7 Article to read: 8 "ARTICLE 12F. 9 "COMMISSION ON THE FAMILY. 10 "§ 120-70.60. Commission established. The Commission on the Family is hereby established as a permanent commission. 11 12 As used in this Article, the term 'Commission' means the Commission on the Family. "§ 120-70.61. Powers and duties. 13 14 The Commission shall study State government policy and programs affecting the 15 family, specifically addressing family issues from the point of existing laws, governmental programs needed or already functioning, and current family life issues. 16 17 The Commission shall work in close collaboration with various agencies and programs 18 dealing with the family. Among the issues the Commission may consider studying are the following: 19 20 (1) The feasibility of establishing model projects that would be 21 located primarily in low-income, high drop-out rate communities in North Carolina: 22 To teach adults in the family to read; and 23 a. 24 To provide after school care for school-aged children using b. volunteers who could be retirees in the provision of services; 25 **(2)** The fiscal impact of a cash stipend created by a tax deduction or by 26 27 industry dollars to promote literacy or the obtaining of a General Education Development Degree for persons who are presently 28 29 illiterate or outside the school system; 30 (3) The needs for day care for children and senior citizens, an increase in Aid to Families with Dependent Children payments and 31 eligibility requirements, coordination of State law with federal 32 welfare reform programs, in-home services for the elderly, 33 additional funding for adult day care, and incentives for industries 34 35 to develop day care programs; The relationship between the decline of real income and the tax (4) 36 structure, college tax credits, the minimum wage, and welfare 37 support systems: 38 The State's efforts in the areas of adolescent pregnancy and 39 (5) teaching about adolescent sexuality; 40 Undertake a comprehensive review of State and federal programs 41 (6) 42 encouraging business and industry to provide adequate child care for their employees; 43

- Analyze what the State is currently doing to encourage North
  Carolina businesses and industry to provide adequate child care for
  their employees;

  Identify the North Carolina employers that presently provide child
  care options for their employees and what types of options they
  - care options for their employees and what types of options they provide;
  - (9) Undertake a comprehensive study of the types of tax incentives and other incentives that would encourage North Carolina businesses—especially those that have 50 or more employees—to either provide on-site child care facilities or provide other child care options and the cost to the State of these tax incentives;
  - (10) Recommend what the State could be doing to encourage North Carolina businesses to provide on-site child care facilities or other child care options for their employees;
  - (11) Recommend a comprehensive policy for North Carolina to encourage businesses within the State to provide on-site child care facilities or other child care options for their employees; and
  - (12) Study the concept of requiring coverage of child health supervision services in all health insurance policies sold or delivered within the State.

### "§ 120-70.62. Membership; cochairmen; vacancies.

The Commission shall consist of 14 members, as follows:

- (1) The Secretary of Human Resources or his designee;
- (2) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his designee;
- (3) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (4) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- (5) Two members at-large appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (6) Two members at-large appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and
- (7) Two members at-large appointed by the Governor.

Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the initial appointments.

The Commission shall have its initial meeting no later than October 1, 1989 at the call of the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore shall each appoint a cochairman from the membership of the Commission. The membership shall meet upon the call of the cochairmen.

# "§ 120-70.63. Compensation and expenses of members.

The Commission members shall receive no salary for serving but shall receive necessary subsistence and travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 120-3.1, G.S. 138-5, and G.S. 138-6 as applicable.

## **"§ 120-70.64. Additional powers.**

The Commission may hold public meetings across the State to solicit public input with respect to the issues of the family.

The Commission shall have authority to obtain information and data from all State officers, agents, agencies, and departments while in the discharge of its duties, pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 120-19 as if it were a committee of the General Assembly. The Commission shall have the authority to call witnesses, compel testimony relevant to any matter properly before the Commission, and subpoena relevant records and documents. The provisions of G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4 shall apply to the proceedings of the Commission as if it were a joint committee of the General Assembly. In addition to the other signatures required for the issuance of a subpoena under this section, the subpoena shall also be signed by the cochairmen of the Commission. Any cost of providing information to the Commission not covered by G.S. 120-19.3 may be reimbursed by the Commission from funds available for the Commission's work.

The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor no later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

# "§ 120-70.65. Staffing.

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43 44 At the request of the Commission, the Legislative Services Commission may supply members of the staff of the Legislative Services Office and clerical assistance to the Commission as it deems appropriate. The Commission may, with the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, meet in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building."

Sec. 3.2. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Commission on the Family for its work the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

# PART IV.—-STATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 4.1. The State Infrastructure Needs and Financing Study Commission is created. The Commission shall:

Undertake a comprehensive review and analysis of the impact upon (1) community service facilities of any new development, construction, or installation that requires any permit, certification, or other governmental or quasi-governmental action allowing real property development and that generates or tends to generate the need for new, expanded, or improved community service facilities. of this study, the term "community purposes facilities" means public facilities or improvements provided or established by a local government, including those provided or established by a local government jointly with other units of government or government agencies, whether local, State, or federal. The term includes utility facilities, transportation facilities, parks and recreation facilities, drainage and water quality facilities, streets and sidewalks, open spaces, emergency and public safety

- supplement the property tax, local sales and use taxes, and other existing revenue sources;
- Review recent changes in federal and State law that have reduced (6) financial assistance to local governments, created needs for increased expenditures, and restricted the property tax base:
- Undertake a comprehensive review of State and local functional **(7)** and funding responsibilities for services provided by State and local government units in North Carolina:
- Make a comprehensive review of sources of funding local (8) government units in North Carolina;

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- (9) Study the system under which local units are dependent on the 1 2 State for authorization of changes in local revenue sources; 3 (10)Analyze the impact of federal legislation since 1981 and potential federal legislation on the fiscal outlook of the State and local 4 5 government units: 6 (11)Analyze the methods and formulas used in providing State 7 financial assistance to local government units, including 8 reimbursement for local tax changes; 9 (12)Analyze the relationship between the State and local budget cycles; 10 (13)Review the process by which local fiscal impact information is presented during the State budget process; and 11 12 (14)Discuss the merits of establishing a permanent advisory commission comprised of State and local elected officials and 13 14 private citizens that would continually review State and local fiscal 15 relationships. 16 Sec. 4.2. The Commission shall consist of 20 members to be appointed as 17 follows: Five members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro 18 **(1)** 19 Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated cochair; 20 **(2)** Five public members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of 21 the Senate, one of whom shall be an elected city government official, one of whom shall be from the land use planning 22 department or agency of a city, and two of whom shall be persons 23 24 who are involved with or have had extensive experience in land 25 development: Five members of the House of Representatives appointed by the 26 (3) 27 Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be 28 designated cochair; and 29 Five public members appointed by the Speaker of the House of (4) 30 Representatives, one of whom shall be an elected county government official, one of whom shall be from the land use 31 32 planning department or agency of a county, and two of whom shall 33 be persons who are involved with or who have had extensive 34 experience in land development. 35 Members appointed to the Commission shall serve until the 36
  - Commission makes its final report. Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments were made.

    Sec. 4.4. Upon request of the Commission or its staff, all State departments
  - Sec. 4.4. Upon request of the Commission or its staff, all State departments and agencies and all local government departments and agencies shall furnish to the Commission or its staff any information in their possession or available to them.
  - Sec. 4.5. The Commission may submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations and the status of its review and analyses to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1990 Regular Session of the 1989 General Assembly. The Commission shall submit the final report of its findings and recommendations to the

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 General Assembly on or before January 15, 1991. All reports shall be submitted by filing the report with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Commission shall terminate upon filing its final report.

Sec. 4.6. The Commission shall meet upon the call of the cochairs.

- Sec. 4.7. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the Offices of House and Senate Supervisors of Clerks. The expenses of employment of the clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission.
- Sec. 4.8. Members of the Commission shall be paid per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances as follows:
  - (1) Commission members who are also members of the General Assembly, at the rate established in G.S. 120-3.1.
  - (2) Commission members who are officials or employees of the State or local government agencies, at the rate established in G.S. 138-6.
  - (3) All other Commission members at the rate established in G.S. 138-5.
- Sec. 4.9. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the State Infrastructure and Local Government Needs Study Commission for its work the sum of \$30,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

#### PART V.—-MENTAL HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION

- Sec. 5.1. The Mental Health Study Commission, established and structured by 1973 General Assembly Resolution 80; Chapter 806, 1973 Session Laws; Chapter 185, 1975 Session Laws; Chapter 184, 1977 Session Laws; Chapter 215, 1979 Session Laws; 1979 General Assembly Resolution 20; Chapter 49, 1981 Session Laws; Chapter 268, 1983 Session Laws; Chapter 792, 1985 Session Laws; and Chapter 873, 1987 Session Laws; is revived and authorized to continue in existence until July 1, 1991.
- Sec. 5.2. Section 2 of Resolution 80, Session Laws of 1973, as amended by Chapter 806, Session Laws of 1973, Section 2 of Chapter 184, Session Laws of 1977, and as rewritten by Section 10.1 of Chapter 792 of the 1985 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:
- "Sec. 2. Appointment of Members. The Commission shall consist of 24 members. The Speaker of the House shall appoint eight members at least six of whom at the time of their appointment are members of the House, and one of those six shall be Chairman of the Mental Health Committee of the House of Representatives. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint eight members at least six of whom at the time of their appointment are members of the Senate, and one of those six shall be Chairman of the Senate Human Resources Committee. The Governor shall appoint eight members, two of whom at the time of their appointment shall be county commissioners taken from a list of four candidates nominated by the North Carolina Association of County

 Commissioners. If that Association fails to make nominations by September 1, 1985 1989, the Governor may appoint any two county commissioners."

Sec. 5.3. The first sentence of Section 3 of Resolution 80, Session Laws of 1973, as the same was rewritten by Section 10.2 of Chapter 792 of the 1985 Session Laws and is contained therein, is rewritten to read:

"The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a cochairman from the Commission's membership."

- Sec. 5.4. The continued Mental Health Study Commission shall have all the powers and duties of the original Study Commission as they are necessary to continue the original study, to assist in the implementation of the original and succeeding Study Commission recommendations and to plan further activity on the subject of the study.
- Sec. 5.5. Members and staff of the continued Mental Health Study Commission shall receive compensation and expenses as under the original authorization in the 1973 General Assembly Resolution 80. Expenses of the Commission shall be expended by the Department of Human Resources from Budget Code 14460 subhead 1110.
- Sec. 5.6. In addition to other studies authorized by law, the Mental Health Study Commission shall:
  - (1) Have oversight, and review and make recommendations regarding the implementation of the Comprehensive Long Range Plan for Adults with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness;
  - (2) Have oversight, and review and make recommendations regarding pioneer testing of funding policies;
  - (3) Continue the study of insurance coverage for mental illness and chemical dependency;
  - (4) Continue the study of mental health services in the criminal justice system, particularly in North Carolina jails; and
  - (5) Examine the needs of adult citizens suffering from substance abuse and develop a comprehensive plan to provide a continuum of care to respond to those needs.
- Sec. 5.7. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Resources for the 1989-90 fiscal year the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the use of the Commission in the study of insurance coverage for mental illness and chemical dependency.

#### PART VI.—-STATE PARKS STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 6.1. There is created a Study Commission on State Parks and Recreation Areas to be composed of nine members, three Senators to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, three Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, and three public members to be appointed by the Governor. Appointments to the Study Commission shall be made within 30 days subsequent to the adjournment of the General Assembly in 1989. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each designate a cochairman from their appointees. Either cochairman may call the first meeting of the Study Commission.

- 1 Sec. 6.2. The Study Commission is authorized:
  - (1) To identify the needs of State Parks and Recreation Areas;
    - (2) To collect and evaluate reports and recommendations of various agencies, councils, and associations relating to State Parks and Recreation Areas;
      - (3) To study the recreation potential of the Randleman Dam area and its possible inclusion in the State Parks System;
      - (4) To review and formulate recommended legislation; and
    - (5) To study any other issues pertinent to the State Parks and Recreation System.
  - Sec. 6.3. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the Offices of House and Senate Supervisors of Clerks. The expenses of employment of the clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission. The cochairmen may assign and direct the activities of the employees, subject to the advice of the Study Commission. The Department of Natural Resources and Community Development and any other departments, boards, or associations shall assist the Study Commission and furnish any information or expertise requested.
  - Sec. 6.4. The Study Commission may file an interim report to the General Assembly on or before the convening of the 1990 Session and shall file a written report of its findings and recommendations with the presiding officer of the House of Representatives and the Senate on or before the convening of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly. The Study Commission shall terminate upon the filing of the final report.
  - Sec. 6.5. Members of the Study Commission shall be paid compensation and per diem and travel expenses in accordance with G.S. 138-5. Members who are legislators shall be reimbursed for travel and subsistence in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1.
  - Sec. 6.6. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the State Parks Study Commission for its work the sum of \$20,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$20,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

- PART VII—-JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON SEAFOOD AND AQUACULTURE
- Sec. 7.1. Chapter 120 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new 40 Article to read:

"ARTICLE 12E.

- 42 "JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON SEAFOOD AND AQUACULTURE.
- 43 "§ 120-70.51. Committee established.

The Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture is hereby established as a permanent joint committee of the General Assembly. As used in this Article, the term 'Commission' means the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture.

# "§ 120-70.52. Membership; cochairmen; vacancies; quorum.

The Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture shall consist of eleven members: three Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; three Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; three members appointed by the Governor; and two members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing officer. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator to serve as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one Representative to serve as cochairman. Vacancies occurring on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as initial appointments. A quorum of the Commission shall consist of six members.

# "§ 120-70.53. Powers and duties.

The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To monitor and study the current seafood industry in North Carolina including studies of the feasibility of increasing the State's production, processing, and marketing of seafood;
- (2) To study the potential for increasing the role of aquaculture in all regions of the State;
- (3) To evaluate the feasibility of creating a central permitting office for fishing and aquaculture matters;
- (4) To evaluate actions of the Marine Fisheries Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, the Wildlife Resources Commission of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, and of any other board, commission, department, or agency of the State or local government as such actions relate to the seafood and aquaculture industries;
- (5) To make recommendations regarding regulatory matters relating to the seafood and aquaculture industries including, but not limited to:
  - a. Increasing the State's representation and decision-making ability by dividing the State between the Atlantic and South Atlantic regions of the National Division of Marine Fisheries; and
  - b. Evaluating the necessity to substantially increase penalties for trespass and theft of shellfish and other aquaculture products;
- (6) To review and evaluate changes in federal law and regulations, relevant court decisions, and changes in technology affecting the seafood and aquaculture industries;

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- To review existing and proposed State law and rules affecting the seafood and aquaculture industries and to determine whether any modification of law or rules is in the public interest;
  - (8) To make reports and recommendations, including draft legislation, to the General Assembly from time to time as to any matter relating to the powers and duties set out in this section; and
  - (9) To undertake such additional studies as it deems appropriate or as may from time to time be requested by the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, either house of the General Assembly, the Legislative Research Commission, or the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, and to make such reports and recommendations to the General Assembly regarding such studies as it deems appropriate.

#### **"§ 120-70.54. Additional powers.**

The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may exercise all the powers of a joint committee of the General Assembly provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the call of either cochairman, whether or not the General Assembly is in session. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission.

# "§ 120-70.55. Compensation and expenses of members.

Members of the Commission shall receive per diem and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1 for members who are legislators, and shall receive compensation and per diem and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 138-5 for members who are not legislators.

#### "§ 120-70.56. Staffing.

The Legislative Administrative Officer shall assign as staff to the Commission professional employees of the General Assembly, as approved by the Legislative Services Commission. Clerical staff shall be assigned to the Commission through the Offices of the Supervisor of Clerks of the Senate and Supervisor of Clerks of the House of Representatives. The expenses of employment of clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission.

#### "§ 120-70.57. Funding.

From funds available to the General Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission shall allocate monies to fund the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture."

Sec. 7.2. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture for its work the sum of \$10,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$10,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

#### PART VIII.—-SOCIAL SERVICES STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 8.1. There is established the Social Services Study Commission, an independent commission, to study public social services and public assistance in North Carolina and to recommend improvements that will assure that North Carolina has cost-effective, consistently administered public social services and public assistance programs.

Sec. 8.2. The Commission shall consist of 17 voting and four nonvoting members. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint seven voting members, five of whom shall be House members, one of whom shall be a county commissioner, and one of whom shall be a low-income recipient of social services or public assistance benefits. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint seven voting members, five of whom shall be Senators, one of whom shall be a county social services director, and one of whom shall be an advocate for low-income people who is familiar with social services and public assistance programs. The Governor shall appoint three voting members, one of whom shall be the Secretary of Human Resources or a designee, one of whom shall be an officer or director of a private social services agency, and one of whom shall be a business representative who is involved in a local Private Industry Council. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each appoint two nonvoting members who shall be involved in the administration or funding of social services and public assistance programs. Initial appointments shall be made within 30 days following adjournment of the 1989 Session of the General Assembly. Vacancies shall be filled by the official who made the initial appointment using the same criteria as provided by this section.

Sec. 8.3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a cochair of the Commission from their appointees. The cochairs shall call the first meeting and preside at alternate meetings.

Sec. 8.4. The Social Services Study Commission shall continue to examine the need for improvements in the State's social services system and develop legislation to address those needs. If legislation is enacted directing the Department of Human Resources to develop a Social Services Plan, the Commission may receive status reports on the development of the Plan; upon completion of the Plan, the Commission shall receive and review it. The Commission shall also monitor and review efforts within the Department of Human Resources to (i) plan for the efficient and timely implementation of federal welfare reform provisions, and (ii) simplify public assistance programs by reducing paperwork, developing a consolidated application process, or other means.

Sec. 8.5. The Commission members shall receive no salary for their services but shall receive subsistence and travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as applicable.

Sec. 8.6. The Commission may solicit, employ, or contract for professional, technical, or clerical assistance, and may purchase or contract for the materials or services it needs. Subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the professional and clerical staff of the Legislative Services Office shall be available to the Commission, and the Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. With the consent of the Secretary of the Department of

Human Resources, staff employed by the Department or any of the divisions may be assigned permanently or temporarily to assist the Commission or its staff.

- Sec. 8.7. Upon request of the Commission or its staff, all State departments and agencies and all local governmental agencies shall furnish the Commission or its staff with any information in their possession or available to them.
- Sec. 8.8. The Commission shall submit a final written report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate before or upon the convening of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly. The Commission shall terminate upon the filing of the report.
- Sec. 8.9. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Social Services Study Commission for its work the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$20,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

#### PART IX.—-LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL SALARY STUDY COMMISSION

- Sec. 9.1. The Legislative and Judicial Salary Study Commission is created. The Commission shall consist of 15 members appointed by the Governor. No member of the General Assembly or Justice or Judge of the General Court of Justice may serve on the Commission.
- Sec. 9.2. The Governor shall designate one member of the Commission as chairman.
- Sec. 9.3. The Commission shall study the salaries of the members of the General Assembly and Justices and Judges of the General Court of Justice.
- Sec. 9.4. The Commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day the 1989 Session of the General Assembly reconvenes in 1990 by filing the report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its report, the Commission shall terminate.
- Sec. 9.5. The Commission may meet at any time upon the call of the chairman. The Commission may meet, with the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.
- Sec. 9.6. Members of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence and travel expenses as provided by law.
- Sec. 9.7. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services. The Governor shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission.
- Sec. 9.8. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission, the vacancy shall be filled by the Governor.
- Sec. 9.9. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or available to them.
- Sec. 9.10. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of Governor for fiscal year 1989-90 the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the expenses of the Commission.

 PART X.—-LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL EQUITY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATORS' HALL OF FAME.

Sec. 10.1. The Legislative Study Commission Educational Equity for Public School Students, and the feasibility of Establishing an Educators Hall of Fame is created. The Commission shall consist of 15 members, and particular emphasis shall be placed on selecting members who are sensitive to the issues concerning students at risk of academic underachievement. The composition of the Commission shall be as follows:

- (1) Four members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- (2) Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (3) A current or former superintendent of a local North Carolina school system, a current or former North Carolina public school principal, and a representative of the business sector, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- (4) A current or former school board member of a local North Carolina public school system, a current or former North Carolina public school classroom teacher, and a representative of the business sector, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
- (5) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his designee.

Sec. 10.2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one Representative as cochairman. Vacancies occurring on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as initial appointments. A quorum of the Commission shall consist of seven members.

Sec. 10.3. Members of the Commission shall receive per diem and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1 for members who are legislators, and G.S. 138-5 for members who are not legislators.

- Sec. 10.4. The Commission is charged with the following powers and duties:
  - (1) To study issues and matters identified in Senate Bill 751 "State Educational Equity Grants" of the 1989 Session;
  - (2) To study other methods of focusing on issues related to students at risk of academic and social failure so as to significantly increase the likelihood that all North Carolina students will graduate from high school with academic and social skills that will enable them:
    - a. To be well-rounded productive citizens, and
    - b. To be adequately prepared to handle the increasingly complex tasks that will enable them to successfully pursue and complete higher levels of academic and/or vocational education;

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- To study the feasibility of establishing a State and/or local government "Earn to Learn" program, the purpose of which would be to encourage and facilitate the enrollment of high school graduates in post-secondary institutions in North Carolina. In conducting this study, the Commission is encouraged to consider inclusion of the following components in the program:

  Employment of high school graduates in State and local
  - a. Employment of high school graduates in State and local agencies, or other agencies, in or reasonably accessible to their places of residence;
  - b. Development of a formula by which earnings and/or work credits can be applied to the cost of attendance at a State operated post-secondary institution;
  - (4) To study the feasibility of establishing an educators hall of fame to honor North Carolina educators who have made significant contributions to the education of the citizens of this State;
  - (5) To receive and consider reports of other studies concerning the matters set out in subsections (1) through (4) of this section and concerning related matters.

Sec. 10.5. The Commission may submit an interim report to the General Assembly on or before the convening of its 1990 Session, and shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly by the filing of a report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairmen of the Senate and House Appropriations committees and subcommittees. Upon filing its final report, the Commission shall terminate. The report of the Commission shall summarize the information obtained in the course of its inquiry, set forth any findings and conclusions, and recommend such administrative actions or legislative actions that may be necessary. If legislation is recommended, the Commission shall prepare and submit with its report, or reports, appropriate bills.

Sec. 10.6. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the Offices of the House and Senate Supervisors of Clerks. The expenses of employment of the clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission. The Commission, subject to the provisions of G.S. 120-32.02, enter into contracts for the provision of technical assistance it finds necessary for the performance of its responsibilities under this Part.

Sec. 10.7. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year to be used for the operation of the Commission created under this Part.

PART XI.—LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

Sec. 11.1. The Legislative Study Commission on Proprietary Schools is created. The Commission shall consist of 14 members: seven appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, at least four of whom are members of the Senate, and seven appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at least four of whom are members of the House of Representatives.

- Sec. 11.2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one Representative as cochairman.
- Sec. 11.3. The Commission shall investigate, study, and make recommendations in connection with proprietary schools that offer, or purport to offer, associate degrees or diplomas. The scope of the study shall include the following:
  - (1) The extent to which the schools are capitalized;
  - (2) The extent of their operating reserves;
  - (3) Their assets and liabilities, and profit and loss information;
  - (4) Other matters related to their financial integrity;
  - (5) The adequacy of their facilities, equipment, and faculty and staff qualification;
  - (6) Their advertising, sales and promotional practices and activities;
  - (7) Any benefits, including the quality of education, received by students who enroll in the schools' programs;
  - (8) Benefits received by students who enroll in the schools compared to benefits that would be available through community college and university programs;
  - (9) The proportion of students enrolled in proprietary school programs who are eligible and academically prepared for admission to community college or university programs;
  - (10) Why students who were eligible and academically prepared for admission to community college or university programs chose to enroll in proprietary schools;
  - How students who completed proprietary school programs assess the quality of education and preparation they received;
  - (12) Any regulatory and licensing changes that should be made;
  - (13) The appropriateness and integrity of governance structures and processes; and
  - (14) An examination of other states' methods of regulation and licensing of proprietary schools.

Sec. 11.4. The Commission shall submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before April 1, 1990, and a final report on or before February 1, 1991, by filing the reports with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its final report, the Commission shall terminate.

Sec. 11.5. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may exercise all the powers of a joint committee of the General Assembly provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call of the cochairmen. With the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Study Commission on Proprietary Schools may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.

Sec. 11.6. Members of the Commission who are legislators shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1. Other members shall receive travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with G.S. 138-5.

Sec. 11.7. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in the work of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors of Clerks shall assign clerical staff to the Commission, upon the direction of the Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees shall be borne by the Commission.

Sec. 11.8. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission the vacancy shall be filled by the same appointing officer who made the initial appointment.

Sec. 11.9. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or available to them.

Sec. 11.10. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Legislative Study Commission on Proprietary Schools for its work the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

#### PART XII.—-DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 12.1. The North Carolina Depository Institutions Study Commission is hereby created. The Commission shall consist of 18 members: five Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; five Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House; one representative of the North Carolina commercial banking industry appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; one representative of the North Carolina savings institution industry appointed by the Speaker of the House; one representative of the credit union industry appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; one representative of the small and minority business community appointed by the Speaker of the House; and one representative of the low-income consumer community appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The North Carolina Commissioner of Banks, the Administrators of the Savings and Loan and Credit Union Divisions of the North Carolina Department of Commerce shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members. All replacement appointments shall be filled in the same manner as initial appointments.

Sec. 12.2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate

one Representative as cochairman. The cochairmen shall call the initial meeting of the Commission.

Sec. 12.3. The Commission shall study the impact of national developments within the depository institutions industry and what effect, if any, these developments will have upon North Carolina depository institutions. The scope of the study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The effect on North Carolina depository institutions, if any, resulting from action by the federal government to restructure the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation;
- (2) The effect on North Carolina depository institutions, if any, resulting from any increased authority which may be granted to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;
- (3) The effect on the North Carolina public, if any, if savings institutions were permitted to convert into commercial banks and commercial banks allowed to convert into savings institutions;
- (4) The level of competition between financial institutions in North Carolina;
- (5) The cost and availability of financial services available through North Carolina financial institutions; and
- (6) The desirability, if any, of consolidating North Carolina financial institution regulatory agencies into a single agency.

Sec. 12.4. The Commission may submit an interim report to the General Assembly on or before the convening of its 1990 Session, and shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly by the filing of a report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its final report, the Commission shall terminate. The report of the Commission shall summarize the information obtained in the course of its inquiry, set forth any findings and conclusions, and recommend such administrative actions or legislative actions that may be necessary. If legislation is recommended, the Commission shall prepare and submit with its report or reports appropriate bills.

Sec. 12.5. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the Offices of House and Senate Supervisors of Clerks. The expenses of employment of the clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission. The Commission may also, subject to the provisions of G.S. 120-32.02(b), enter into contracts for the provision of technical assistance it finds necessary for the performance of its responsibilities under this Part.

Sec. 12.6. Members of the Commission who are also members of the General Assembly shall be paid subsistence and travel expenses at the rate set forth in G.S. 120-3.1. Members of the Commission who are officials or employees of the State shall

receive travel allowances at the rate set forth in G.S. 138-6. All other members of the Commission shall be paid the per diem and allowance at the rate set forth in G.S. 138-5.

Sec. 12.7. There is transferred from the funds appropriated to the Banking Commission for the 1989-1990 fiscal year to the Legislative Services Commission for the Depository Institutions Study Commission \$25,000 for fiscal year 1989-90. The Legislative Services Commission may allocate to the Commission additional funds necessary to enable the Commission to complete its study.

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#### PART XIII.—-ENERGY ASSURANCE STUDY COMMISSION

- Sec. 13.1. (a) The North Carolina Energy Assurance Study Commission is created. The Commission shall consist of 19 members. The Chairman of the Utilities Commission, the Director of the Public Staff of the Utilities Commission, the Director of the N.C. Rural Electrification Authority, the Secretary of Human Resources, and the Director of the Energy Division of the Department of Commerce shall serve ex officio. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint seven members as follows: two members of the Senate, one representative from the electric utility industry regulated by the Utilities Commission, one representative from an electric membership corporation in North Carolina, one representative of the unregulated fuels industry, one representative of a private agency that delivers energy assistance benefits to low-income people, and one low-income utilities consumer advocate. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint seven members as follows: two members of the House of Representatives, one representative from ElectriCities of North Carolina, one director of a county department of social services, one representative of the natural gas industry regulated by the Utilities Commission, one representative of the Community Action Program agencies, and one low-income person.
- (b) The members of the Commission shall be appointed by September 1, 1989, and shall serve until termination of the Commission. If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission, it shall be filled by the officer who appointed the member who is to be replaced. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a cochair from among the membership of the Commission, but no ex officio member of the Commission may serve as a cochair.
- Sec. 13.2. Duties of the Commission. (a) The Commission shall investigate the feasibility of establishing an Energy Assurance Plan in North Carolina to accomplish the following objectives:
  - (1) Aid low-income people in maintaining reasonable and safe levels of heat in their homes:
  - (2) Reduce the number of involuntary terminations of energy to low-income households in the State; and
  - (3) Direct federal, State, local, and private efforts in weatherizing homes to those which have the most significant needs.
  - (b) In investigating the feasibility of such a plan, the Commission shall:
    - (1) Document, to the extent possible, the scope of current problems facing low-income people in dealing with their energy burdens;

- Determine, through a study of the administration of the Low Income Energy Assistance Program funds in North Carolina, a method by which these funds could be better targeted to address the energy needs of low-income people;
  - (3) Determine the cost of establishing an Energy Assurance Plan in North Carolina;
  - (4) Investigate sources of revenue to fund an Energy Assurance Plan; and
  - (5) Recommend an Energy Assurance Plan that will accomplish the stated objectives through the use of existing federal, State, local, and private funds or alternative sources of revenue.
  - (c) The Commission may obtain information and data from all State officers, agents, agencies, and departments while in the discharge of its duties pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 120-19 as if it were a committee of the General Assembly. The Commission may also call witnesses, compel testimony relevant to any matter properly before the Commission, and subpoena records and documents, provided that any client record shall have client identifying information removed. The provisions of G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4 shall apply to the proceedings of the Commission as if it were a joint committee of the General Assembly. In addition to the other signatures required for the issuance of a subpoena under this section, the subpoena shall also be signed by a cochair of the Commission. Any cost of providing information to the Commission not covered by G.S. 120-19.3 may be reimbursed by the Commission from funds appropriated for the Commission's use.
  - Sec. 13.3. The initial meeting of the Commission shall be called by the cochairs. Subsequent meetings shall be held upon the call of a cochair or upon the written request of five members.
  - Sec. 13.4. The Commission may file an interim report on or before June 1, 1990, and shall file its final report by February 1, 1991, with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report shall summarize the information obtained in the course of the Commission's inquiry, set forth its findings and conclusions, and recommend administrative actions or legislative actions that may be necessary to implement the Energy Assurance Plan. If legislation is recommended, the Commission shall prepare and submit with its report appropriate bills. Upon termination of the Commission, the cochairs shall transmit to the Legislative Library for preservation the records and papers of the Commission. The Commission shall terminate upon the filing of its report.
  - Sec. 13.5. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the Offices of House and Senate Supervisors of Clerks. The expenses of employment of the clerical staff shall be borne by the Commission. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission. The Energy Assurance Commission, subject to the provisions of G.S. 120-32.02(b), may enter into contracts for the provision of technical

assistance, statistical analysis, evaluation of pilot projects, and other services it finds necessary for the performance of its responsibilities under this Part.

Sec. 13.6. Members of the Commission who are also members of the General Assembly shall be paid subsistence and travel expenses at the rate set forth in G.S. 120-3.1. Members of the Commission who are officials or employees of the State shall receive travel allowances at the rate set forth in G.S. 138-6. All other members of the Commission shall be paid the per diem and allowances set forth in G.S. 138-5.

Sec. 13.7. There is transferred from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Commission created by this Part the sum of \$10,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year to prepare and submit a plan of study to obtain the requisite federal approval for the spending of monies specifically appropriated for the work of the Energy Assurance Study Commission. Funds specifically appropriated to the Department of Commerce to be allocated to the Energy Assurance Study Commission are hereby transferred to the General Assembly for the work of the Commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except for the specific transfer from the reserve for studies contained in this section, only funds specifically appropriated to the Department of Commerce for the Energy Assurance Study Commission may be expended for the work of the Commission. Unexpended funds shall revert to the Special Reserve for Oil Overcharge Funds.

### PART XIV.—-HOMELESS PERSONS STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 14.1. There is created the Homeless Persons Study Commission, an independent commission, to study the situation of homeless persons in North Carolina and to make recommendations on what the State and non-State entities can do to meet the needs and reduce the number of persons who are homeless. The Commission shall consist of 12 members: three Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, three Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and six members appointed by the Governor. The Governor's appointees shall be persons with a particular sensibility to the needs of homeless people: one shall be a health care professional licensed by the State, one shall represent the administrative staff or board of directors of a homeless shelter in the State, one shall be a professional educator employed in a public school or post-secondary institution in the State, one shall be an elected representative of local government, one shall represent a low-income housing advocacy organization, and one shall be a former homeless shelter client, if such an appointment is possible under the circumstances. Initial appointments shall be made within 30 days following the adjournment of the 1989 Session of the General Assembly.

- Sec. 14.2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one Representative as cochairman.
- Sec. 14.3. The Commission shall obtain, study, and make recommendations based on such information as:
  - (1) The sociological characteristics of the State's homeless population, such as age, race, and sex, and economic, health, occupational, and family status;

- The estimated number of homeless persons in the State, (2) 1 2 identification of the areas of the State in which there are the 3 greatest and least concentrations of homeless persons, and possible 4 reasons for such concentrations: 5 (3) The relationship between homelessness and such factors as hunger, 6 literacy, education, job training, income, mental and physical 7 health, alcoholism and substance abuse, municipal zoning and 8 economic development, crime, and the delivery or nondelivery of 9 public services: 10 **(4)** Services to homeless persons currently provided by State, non-State, and local agencies, institutions, and other nonprofit 11 12 organizations, and whether and how such entities cooperate with 13 one another in providing the services; Services for the homeless that are not currently provided and which 14 **(5)** 15 are critical to meeting the needs of homeless persons, and 16 recommendations on how State and non-State entities could cooperate to provide such services: 17 18 (6) Whether services being provided or planned include or should 19 include the following: 20 Referrals of homeless persons to other human services offered a. 21 by State and non-State entities; 22 b. Case management efforts which help keep track of homeless persons and their needs: 23 24 Job training and referral; c. 25 d. Efforts to ensure that the children of homeless families are enrolled in and regularly attend public schools; and 26 27 Availability of affordable housing; and e. The overall impact of homelessness on the State, its municipalities, 28 (7) 29 and its citizens. 30
  - Sec. 14.4. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly by filing the report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its final report, the Commission shall terminate.

Sec. 14.5. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may exercise all the powers of a joint committee of the General Assembly provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call of the cochairmen. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building, with the approval of the Legislative Services Commission.

Sec. 14.6. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, G.S. 138-5, and G.S. 138-6, as applicable.

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Sec. 14.7. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in the work of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors of Clerks shall assign clerical staff to the Commission, upon the direction of the Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees shall be borne by the Commission.

Sec. 14.8. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission the vacancy shall be filled by the same appointing officer who made the initial appointment.

Sec. 14.9. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or available to them.

Sec. 14.10. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Homeless Persons Study Commission for its work the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

# PART XV.—-MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS ARBITRATION STUDY COMMISSION

Sec. 15.1. The Medical Malpractice Arbitration Study Commission is hereby created. The Commission shall consist of 13 members who shall be appointed as follows:

- (1) Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:
  - a. Three persons who are members of the House of Representatives at the time of their appointment, one of whom shall be a licensed attorney regularly representing plaintiffs or a member of a firm that regularly represents plaintiffs, and one of whom shall be a licensed attorney regularly representing defendants or a member of a firm that regularly represents defendants;
  - b. One physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina; and
  - c. One at-large member representing the general public;
- (2) Five members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate as follows:
  - a. Three persons who are members of the Senate at the time of their appointment, one of whom shall be a licensed attorney regularly representing plaintiffs or a member of a firm which regularly represents plaintiffs, and one of whom shall be a licensed attorney regularly representing defendants or a member of a firm which regularly represents defendants;
  - b. One physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina; and

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- c. One at-large member representing the general public;
- (3) The Chief Justice of North Carolina or his designee;
- (4) The Chief Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals or his designee; and
- (5) The President of the North Carolina Bar Association or his designee.

If a vacancy occurs in the membership, the appointing authority shall appoint another person to serve the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Sec. 15.2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochairman, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one member of the House of Representatives as cochairman.

Sec. 15.3. The Commission shall study the use of court-annexed arbitration in medical malpractice actions, as described in G.S. 90-21.12, and as a part of its study, the Commission may also consider studies by the American Medical Association, the North Carolina Bar Association Dispute Resolution Committee, and the Duke University Private Adjudication Center, regarding alternate forms of dispute resolution in mediation, conciliation, and other forms of alternate dispute resolution, which might lead to a more expeditious and more economical determination of issues arising in a medical malpractice action than the present system of discovery and jury trial, which has been found to be very time consuming and expensive. The Commission is specifically empowered to study arbitration and other alternate dispute resolution forms which have been implemented or are being considered for implementation in other states of the United States.

Sec. 15.4. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1991 Session of the General Assembly by filing the report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Commission may, but is not required to, file its report on or before the first day of the 1990 Budget Session of the 1989 General Assembly, if it can complete its work and adopt a report requiring filing on or before such date. Upon filing its final report, the Commission shall terminate.

Sec. 15.5. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may exercise all the powers of a joint committee of the General Assembly provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call of the cochairmen. The Commission, with the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.

Sec. 15.6. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Administrative Officer, may assign professional staff to assist in the work of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors of Clerks shall assign clerical staff to the Commission, upon the

direction of the Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees shall be borne by the Commission.

Sec. 15.7. All State departments and agencies shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or available to them.

Sec. 15.8. The Commission shall have all powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes and provisions of this act, including, but not limited to, the power to receive and accept grants or funds from any public or private agency for, or in the aid of, the purposes of this section, and to receive or accept contributions, from any source, of money, or labor, to be held, used, and applied for the purposes of this act. Any grants or contributions received shall be held by the Legislative Services Commission and these monies received shall be used prior to the use of any available State funds. If grants or contributions are received thereafter, they shall be retained by the Legislative Services Commission in amount equal to State funds already expended.

Sec. 15.9. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Commission created by this Part for its work the sum of \$25,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$25,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year.

# PART XV.A.—LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON WETLANDS PROTECTION

Sec. 15a.1. The General Assembly recognizes that North Carolina's wetlands are a valuable and productive resource. Wetlands serve a number of functions which are vital to the public health, safety, and welfare. Wetlands (i) protect the drinking water supply by providing a natural filter for both surface water and groundwater resources; (ii) trap nutrients, sediments, and other pollutants capable of polluting downstream waters; (iii) reduce flood and storm damage, thereby preventing a loss of life and property; (iv) provide shoreline stabilization; (v) provide essential breeding, spawning, nesting and wintering habitat for fish and wildlife, including many species that are of commercial or recreational value; (vi) supplement surface water supplies during drought by gradually releasing stored floodwaters and groundwater; and (vii) serve as a source of timber production which is of great economic value to the State.

The General Assembly recognizes that there is an immediate need to study wetlands protection and to develop a legislative program for the management of activities in wetlands. The goals of the wetlands protection program shall be to preserve wetlands of significant ecological value; to protect and manage wetlands so as to prevent any net loss of their ecological functions; and to preserve private property rights and to simplify and consolidate wetlands regulations. The long-term goal of the program shall be to increase the number and enhance the quality of wetlands in the State.

Sec. 15a.2. There is created a Legislative Study Commission on Wetlands Protection. The Commission shall study the desirability and feasibility of State assumption and adaptation of the federal permitting program under Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC § 1344). The Commission may appoint a subcommittee of its members

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for purposes of this study. The Commission or subcommittee shall receive and acquire such information, including testimony, as is necessary to determine whether such assumption should be sought and, if so, what procedure should be followed to accomplish such assumption. Additionally, the Commission shall study the necessary elements of a statewide wetlands protection program and shall develop recommendations for legislation to establish a wetlands protection program that will be adequate to preserve wetlands of significant ecological value from unnecessary alteration; to protect and manage wetlands so as to prevent any net loss of the ecological function of wetlands; and to develop a program of economic incentives to encourage wetlands conservation. In developing its recommendations, the Commission shall study: (i) classification and regulation of wetlands based on their relative resource values, value to the ecosystems and value for economic development; (ii) exemptions for agriculture, forestry, and mining activities; (iii) mitigation of wetlands losses and creation of a mitigation bank to accept donations of property and payments in lieu of actual mitigation; (iv) positive and negative impacts on wetlands of activities including, but not limited to, drainage, excavation, filling, development, and wildlife habitat improvements; and (v) definition and identification of different types of wetlands. In developing recommendations the Commission, and subcommittee if created, shall obtain and receive public comment on existing and desired wetlands regulation and incentives and protection policies.

Sec. 15a.3. The Legislative Study Commission on Wetlands Protection shall consist of 15 members. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint five members: three Senators, one land owner, and one commercial fisherman. The Speaker of the House shall appoint five members: three Representatives, one member associated with the homebuilding industry, and one representative of wildlife resources interests. The Governor shall appoint five members: one representative of the mining industry, one representative of agriculture, one representative of an environmental organization, one representative of forestry, and one representative of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each designate a cochairman from the membership of the Commission. Appointments shall be made no later than August 1, 1989, and members shall serve until the termination of the Commission.

Sec. 15a.4. At the request of the Commission, the Legislative Services Commission may assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. The Commission may also employ any professional and clerical staff it deems necessary to the performance of its duties. With approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Commission may meet in the State Legislative Building or Legislative Office Building.

Sec. 15a.5. Members of the Commission who are members of the General Assembly shall receive subsistence and travel allowances as provided by G.S. 120-3.1. Members who are State officers or employees shall receive subsistence and travel allowances as provided by G.S. 138-6. All other members shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances as provided by G.S. 138-5.

Sec. 15a.6. The Commission may file a report with the 1989 General Assembly, 1990 Regular Session. Otherwise, the Commission shall file a report with the General Assembly not later than March 1, 1991. The Commission shall terminate upon the filing of its report.

Sec. 15a.7. Of the funds appropriated to the General Assembly for the Legislative Research Commission, the sum of \$15,000 for the 1989-90 fiscal year and the sum of \$15,000 for the 1990-91 fiscal year shall be used for the Commission created by this part.

### PART XVI.—-PERSONNEL SYSTEM STUDY

Sec. 16.1. The Office of State Personnel shall review previous recent studies of the State Personnel System from all sources and shall report in writing on or before April 1, 1990 to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations with its recommendations regarding needed modifications to the State Personnel System. The Office of State Personnel shall conduct this study within the funds already appropriated to it.

#### PART XVII.—-HEALTH CARE LICENSING STUDY

Sec. 17.1. The North Carolina Study Commission on Aging established by Article 21 of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes may study the need for regulation of agencies not licensed under State statute or certified for Medicare that provide nursing and nurse's aide services to persons at home. The North Carolina Study Commission on Aging may report its findings, including any legislative recommendations, to the 1991 General Assembly. The North Carolina Study Commission on Aging shall conduct this study within the funds already appropriated to it.

#### PART XVIII.—-MEDICAID RESOURCES LIMIT STUDY

Sec. 18.1. The Department of Human Resources shall study the provisions of the Catastrophic Health Care Act of 1987, in order to determine whether the federal provision that permits states to apply "less restrictive methodologies" to the resource test portion of the eligibility determination process will allow alternatives to current resource test policies that will simplify the determination process and treat applicants more equitably.

The Department shall make a written report, including any recommendations regarding alternative resource test policies, to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by April 1, 1990. The Department of Human Resources shall conduct this study within the funds already appropriated to it.

#### PART XIX.—-INMATE WORK EFFICIENCY STUDY

Sec. 19.1. The Department of Correction shall study the laws governing prisoner labor, including, but not limited to, the daily wage provisions, and determine whether these laws should be amended in order to improve the work efficiency of prison inmates and increase the participation by prison inmates in work projects, particularly in road maintenance work projects.

The Department of Correction shall report its findings to the Joint Legislative 1 2 Commission on Governmental Operations by April 1, 1990. The Department of 3 Correction shall conduct this study within the funds already appropriated to it. 4 5 PART XX.—-SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT IN PRISONS STUDY 6 Sec. 20.1. The Special Committee on Prisons as continued by Resolution 8, 7 Session Laws of 1989, shall study: 8 **(1)** The extent to which appropriate treatment and counseling programs 9 exist within our prison system; 10 (2) The extent to which appropriate treatment programs and facilities exist outside the prison system (residential and nonresidential, for 11 12 adults and adolescents): 13 (3) How much in additional fiscal resources would be necessary in 14 order to have adequate programs and facilities inside and outside 15 the State prison system; The impact – fiscal and otherwise – of requiring a person convicted 16 **(4)** 17 of a criminal offense (felony or misdemeanor) to be evaluated to 18 determine whether he or she is a drug abuser, if: The offense is one in which drugs were involved; or 19 a. 20 Information is presented, during investigation, prosecution or b. 21 sentencing that would suggest the defendant is a drug abuser; The impact, fiscal and otherwise, of requiring a person convicted as 22 (5) described in subdivision (4) of this section – if he or she receives 23 24 an active sentence in our State system, or is placed on probation 25 under the jurisdiction of the State system, and if it is determined through the evaluation that he is a drug abuser – to be subject to the 26 27 following conditions: 28 a. While incarcerated (and continuing for a period of time 29 following release, if appropriate), he or she must receive 30 appropriate treatment and counseling; or If there is no active sentence, he or she shall be required to 31 b. 32 receive appropriate treatment and counseling as a condition of probation: 33 34 (6) Whether conditions set out in subdivision (5) of this section would 35 significantly increase the likelihood that the person will become and remain free of drug abuse; and 36 37 Other related factors and matters. **(7)** 38 Sec. 20.2. There is allocated from the funds appropriated to the Legislative 39 Services Commission from the reserve for studies to the Special Committee on Prisons for its work the sum of \$10,000 for the 1989-1990 fiscal year and the sum of \$10,000 40 41 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year. 42

PART XXII.—-STATE EMPLOYEE MOVING EXPENSE STUDY

Sec. 22.1. The Office of State Budget shall study expanding the current policy on reimbursing State employees for direct and indirect moving expenses and any related issues. The Office of State Budget shall consider the policies on reimbursing employees for moving expenses in other states and in the private sector.

The Office of State Budget shall make a written report of its findings and recommendations on this matter to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations not later that April 1, 1990. The Office of State Budget shall conduct this study within the funds already appropriated to it.

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#### PART XXIII.—-ELIZABETH II CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FACILITY

Sec. 23.1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, the sum of \$20,000 for the 1990-1991 fiscal year for a planning and feasibility study for a cultural activities facility on the Elizabeth II State Historic Site as part of the State Historic Site. The Department of Cultural Resources shall report its findings to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by April 1, 1991.

#### PART XXIV.—-EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 24.1. This act is effective on July 1, 1989.