

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

H

1

HOUSE BILL 698

Short Title: Small Business Development Council.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bowman; and H. Hunter.

Referred to: Commerce.

March 20, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Chapter 147 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new article to read:

“ARTICLE 4C.

“SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

“§ 147-54.25. Purpose.

It is the purpose of this Article to establish the Small Business Development Council to enhance the effectiveness of State-funded programs designed to stimulate small business development in North Carolina by creating an environment that encourages cooperation among State agencies that provide assistance to small businesses.

“§ 147-54.26. Small Business Development Council established.

There is established within the Department of the Secretary of State the Small Business Development Council. The Small Business Development Council shall have the following duties:

- (1) To develop methods to increase public awareness of State-funded programs designed to stimulate small business development in North Carolina.
- (2) To publish a list of State agencies that provide programs or assistance to small businesses.
- (3) To review new programs relating to small business assistance to ensure that the programs are needed and are not currently being provided by any member of the Council.

- 1 (4) To identify additional methods of enhancing the growth of small
2 business in North Carolina.
- 3 (5) To identify rules or governmental procedures that impede the
4 development and operation of small businesses.
- 5 (6) To provide a forum for the private sector to comment on the State's
6 effort to stimulate small business development.
- 7 (7) To develop a mechanism to guide users of small business assistance
8 programs to the appropriate agencies.
- 9 (8) To report to the General Assembly and the Governor on the activities
10 and recommendations of the Council.

11 **"§ 147-54.27. Small Business Development Council - members; chairman;**
12 **compensation; quorum; services.**

13 (a) The Small Business Development Council shall consist of the following
14 members:

- 15 (1) The Secretary of State.
- 16 (2) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce.
- 17 (3) The Director of the Small Business Development Division,
18 Department of Commerce.
- 19 (4) The Director of the North Carolina Science and Technology Research
20 Center.
- 21 (5) The Executive Director of the Small Business and Technology
22 Development Center.
- 23 (6) The Director of the North Carolina Technological Development
24 Authority.
- 25 (7) The President of the North Carolina Rural Economic Development
26 Center, Inc.
- 27 (8) The Director of the Community Assistance Division, Department of
28 Natural Resources and Community Development.
- 29 (9) The President of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center.
- 30 (10) The Director and Associate Dean of the North Carolina State
31 Agricultural Extension Service.
- 32 (11) The Director for Small Business, Department of Community Colleges.
- 33 (12) The Commissioner of Agriculture or his designee.
- 34 (13) The Deputy Commissioner of the Education and Training Division,
35 Department of Labor.
- 36 (14) The Director of the Business License Information Office, Department
37 of the Secretary of State.

38 Any State agency that receives one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more
39 annually to fund programs designed to stimulate small business development in the
40 State and that is not designated in the list above shall notify the Council of its status by
41 October 1st of each year and the head of that agency shall serve on the Council.

42 Members of the Council shall receive necessary travel and subsistence expenses in
43 accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-6.

1 **(b)** The Secretary of State shall serve as chairman of the Small Business
2 Development Council. The Secretary of Commerce shall serve as vice-chairman of the
3 Council and shall preside at the meetings in the absence of the chairman.

4 The chairman shall have the following duties:

5 **(1)** To preside at all Small Business Council meetings.

6 **(2)** To schedule an adequate number of meetings to ensure the
7 effectiveness of the Council.

8 **(3)** To provide the means for assuring input from the private sector.

9 **(4)** To request State agencies not named to the Council to provide
10 information to the Council on programs being offered to assist small
11 businesses.

12 **(5)** To ensure that agencies not named in subsection (a) but which meet
13 the funding requirement in subsection (a) serve on the Small Business
14 Development Council and to determine which agencies meet the
15 criteria in cases in which membership is disputed.

16 **(6)** To present the Council's report to the General Assembly and the
17 Governor annually. In order to perform this duty, the chairman may
18 require members of the Small Business Development Council to
19 furnish information needed to produce a complete report.

20 **(c)** The Council shall meet at least semiannually and may hold additional
21 meetings at any time and place at the call of the chairman. A majority of the Council
22 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

23 **(d)** State departments and agencies shall provide the Council any information and
24 assistance it considers necessary. Professional staff and clerical staff shall be furnished
25 to the Council by the Department of the Secretary of State."

26 Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of the
27 Secretary of State the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the 1989-90 fiscal
28 year to be allocated for printing, postage, and distribution expenses of the Small
29 Business Development Council and the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for
30 the 1990-91 fiscal year to be allocated for printing, postage, and distribution expenses of
31 the Small Business Development Council.

32 Sec. 3. Section 1 of this act shall become effective October 1, 1989. The
33 remainder of this act shall become effective July 1, 1989.