

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 1048

Short Title: Study Local Government Services.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator McDaniel.

Referred to: Appropriations

May 4, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT CREATING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND REGIONAL
PLANNING STUDY COMMISSION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. (a) The Local Government Services and Regional Planning Study Commission is created. The Commission shall consist of 14 members: seven members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and seven members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Of those appointments, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochair and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one Representative as cochair. 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.

(b) Appointments of the members of the Commission shall be completed by the appointing officers as soon as practicable, but not more than 30 days after the adjournment of the 1995 Session of the General Assembly. The cochairs shall call the initial meeting of the Commission not more than 15 days after the appointment of the last member of the Commission. Subsequent meetings may be held upon the joint call of the cochairs.

Sec. 2. (a) The Commission shall:

- 1 (1) Study the consolidation of city and county services in North Carolina.
- 2 (2) Evaluate the status, efficiency, costs, and benefits of the North Carolina
- 3 Regional Planning Commissions and the North Carolina Regional
- 4 Economic Development Commissions.
- 5 (3) Evaluate the status, efficiency, costs, and benefits of North Carolina
- 6 Lead Regional Organizations and the 18 planning regions established
- 7 pursuant to G.S. 153A-391 and G.S. 160A-470.

8 (b) The Commission may review and evaluate any other matters pertaining to
9 regional planning and economic development, the structure of local government, and the
10 delivery of local government services in North Carolina.

11 Sec. 3. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and
12 recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1996 Regular
13 Session of the 1995 General Assembly by filing the report with the President Pro
14 Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its
15 final report, the Commission shall terminate.

16 Sec. 4. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may
17 exercise all the powers provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-
18 19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or
19 the Legislative Office Building.

20 Sec. 5. Members of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence, and
21 travel allowances as follows:

- 22 (1) Commission members who are also members of the General Assembly,
23 at the rate established in G.S. 120-3.1.
- 24 (2) Commission members who are officials or employees of a State or local
25 government agency, at the rate established in G.S. 138-6.
- 26 (3) All other Commission members, at the rate established in G.S. 138-5.

27 Sec. 6. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant
28 services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through
29 the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in the work
30 of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisor of Clerks
31 shall assign clerical staff to the Commission or committee, upon the direction of the
32 Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees shall be
33 borne by the Commission.

34 Sec. 7. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their
35 subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or
36 available to them.

37 Sec. 8. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General Assembly
38 the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year for the
39 expenses of the Commission.

40 Sec. 9. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.