

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH60259-LY-210 (3/22)

Short Title: At-Risk Worker Pilot Program.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Pierce.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DEVELOP AN AT-RISK WORKER PILOT PROGRAM TO ASSIST
WORKERS IN IMPROVING SKILLS BEFORE AN ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT
EVENT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Department of Commerce, in coordination with the
Community Colleges System Office, shall develop a pilot program in Hoke, Robeson,
and Scotland Counties to provide necessary basic skills to at-risk workers in endangered
industries. The purpose of the program is to ensure that low-skilled or unskilled
workers are capable of completing educational or vocational training in the event of an
adverse employment event. In developing the pilot program, the Department shall do
the following:

- (1) Identify a suitable industry around which to develop a pilot program.
A suitable industry is one which employs a high percentage of
low-skilled or unskilled workers and which has seen a decline in the
number of people employed in this State over the last decade due to
increased foreign competition in that industry.
- (2) Design a program to teach basic skills to low-skilled or unskilled
workers. For the purposes of this section, "basic skills" are those skills
needed in order to pursue further educational or vocational training
and include such things as basic educational skills like writing, reading
comprehension, and basic math. The term also includes other skills
necessary for success in a training environment such as time
management.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
Department of Commerce the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for

1 each year of the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium to design and implement the pilot project
2 described in Section 1 of this act.

3 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.