

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE BILL 251**

Short Title: Wilkinson Community Center Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Williams.

Referred to: Appropriations.

February 19, 2007

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE  
WILKINSON CENTER IN BEAUFORT COUNTY.**

Whereas, Hurricane Floyd caused significant damage to several schools in Beaufort County, including the former high school in Belhaven, which was condemned due to residual mold; and

Whereas, a group of citizens formed a nonprofit organization, the Friends of The John A. Wilkinson Building, Inc., to salvage a portion of the former Belhaven High School building; and

Whereas, for five years, this organization has raised funds to restore the building for use as a multipurpose community center, which currently houses an auditorium for cultural and community activities, classrooms for the Beaufort County Community College, and a wing used as a fitness and wellness center; and

Whereas, in order to fully restore the building, funds are needed to complete the unfinished kitchen, pave the parking lot, and purchase and install lights; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Friends of The John A. Wilkinson Building, Inc., a nonprofit organization, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for the restoration of the Wilkinson Center, which serves the citizens of the Belhaven, Greater Beaufort, and Hyde County area as a multipurpose community center. These funds shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$60,000 to stabilize the floor and supporting beams.
- (2) \$40,000 to equip the building with the necessary technical equipment and stage equipment.

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.