

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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HOUSE BILL 2001

Short Title: Space Facility Study/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Redwine; R. Hunter and J. Crawford.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 11, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF A
COMMERCIAL SPACE FACILITY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, in testimony before the Subcommittee on Space, Science, and
Application, United States House of Representatives, NASA stated that it is fully
committed to encouraging and supporting expanded private sector investment in space;
and

Whereas, such a facility would be available for use by private firms to launch
communications satellites and research vehicles and for use by the federal government
for launching of defense missions; and

Whereas, it is estimated that the business of launching communications
satellites will be worth about five billion dollars (\$5,000,000,000) over the next eight
years and that the largest industrial sector in the twenty-first century will be space
related industries which would result in high-paying factory or technical jobs; and

Whereas, North Carolina seems to be a good location for such a launch
facility because of its good year-round weather, good work force, availability of land,
and proximity to military bases, and because the State is highly respected in the
business world; and

Whereas, the states of Florida, Virginia, and Hawaii are studying the
feasibility of such a facility and Florida has recently disclosed plans to commit ten
million dollars (\$10,000,000) toward the financing of a private space launch facility;

Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

1 Section 1. The Legislative Study Commission on the Feasibility of a
2 Commercial Space Facility in North Carolina is created. The Commission shall consist
3 of 12 members: six Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and
4 six Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

5 Sec. 2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator
6 as cochairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one
7 Representative as cochairman.

8 Sec. 3. The Commission shall study the feasibility of a commercial space
9 facility in North Carolina.

10 Sec. 4. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and
11 recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1991
12 Session of the General Assembly by filing the report with the President Pro Tempore of
13 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its final report,
14 the Commission shall terminate.

15 Sec. 5. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may
16 exercise all the powers provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-
17 19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call
18 of the cochairmen. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the
19 Legislative Office Building.

20 Sec. 6. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel
21 expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1.

22 Sec. 7. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant
23 services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through
24 the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in the
25 work of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors
26 of Clerks shall assign clerical staff to the Commission or committee, upon the direction
27 of the Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees
28 shall be borne by the Commission.

29 Sec. 8. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission the
30 vacancy shall be filled by the same appointing officer who made the initial appointment.

31 Sec. 9. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their
32 subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or
33 available to them.

34 Sec. 10. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General
35 Assembly \$50,000 for the 1989-90 fiscal year for the Legislative Study Commission on
36 the Feasibility of a Commercial Space Facility in North Carolina.

37 Sec. 11. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.