

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 1003\*  
Committee Substitute Favorable 7/19/93

Short Title: NCSU Centennial Authority.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 19, 1993

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF THE CENTENNIAL  
3 AUTHORITY.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes  
6 is amended by adding a new Part to read:

7 **"PART 4. CENTENNIAL AUTHORITY.**

8 **"§ 160A-480.1 Short title.**

9 This Part is the 'Centennial Authority Act' and may be cited by that name.

10 **"§ 160A-480.2. Definitions.**

11 The following definitions apply in this Part:

- 12 (1) Authority. – The Centennial Authority.  
13 (2) Member. – A person appointed by a member unit to serve as a  
14 representative to the governing body of the Authority.  
15 (3) Member unit. – Any of the following that has created or joined the  
16 Authority: North Carolina State University, the county where the  
17 University's principal campus is located, or any city or town located in  
18 the county where the University's principal campus is located.  
19 (4) Regional facility. – A facility consisting of an arena and other  
20 buildings or areas where sports, fitness, health, recreational,  
21 entertainment, or cultural activities can be conducted. The facility  
22 may be composed of buildings grouped into complexes or separated  
23 from each other and may include ancillary support facilities, such as

1           those for administration, sports science, sports medicine, training,  
2           museums, meeting rooms and conference centers, accommodations,  
3           and food services. The facility must be designed to attract to the State  
4           as many major regional, national, and international tournaments,  
5           events, championships training centers, training camps, and  
6           headquarters for the governance of various sports, associations, and  
7           events as possible.

8    **"§ 160A-480.3. Creation of Authority; additional membership.**

9           (a) Creation. – North Carolina State University, the county where the principal  
10          campus of the University is located, and any one or more of the cities and towns located  
11          in that county may create an Authority by adopting substantially identical resolutions to  
12          that effect. The resolution must be adopted by the Board of Governors of The  
13          University of North Carolina and by the governing body of each of the local  
14          governmental units. The purpose of the Authority is to study, design, plan, construct,  
15          own, and operate a regional facility.

16          (b) Charter. – The resolutions creating the Authority and any amendments to  
17          them are the Authority's charter. The charter of the Authority shall include the name of  
18          the Authority, the identity of its member units, the number of members, and a method  
19          for amending the charter. The charter may also do any one or more of the following:

- 20                  (1) Limit the powers, duties, and functions that the Authority may exercise  
21                  and perform.  
22                  (2) Set out the method of determining any financial support that will be  
23                  given to the Authority by each member unit of local government and  
24                  North Carolina State University.  
25                  (3) Prescribe the compensation and allowances, if any, to be paid to the  
26                  members of the Authority.  
27                  (4) Contain rules for the conduct of Authority business and any other  
28                  matter pertaining to the organization, powers, and functioning of the  
29                  Authority that the member units of local government and North  
30                  Carolina State University consider appropriate.

31          (c) Members. – The initial number of members shall be based upon the initial  
32          financial contribution of each member unit to the Authority. The amount of the initial  
33          financial contribution shall be stated in the adopted resolutions creating the Authority.  
34          Members shall be citizens of North Carolina and the members appointed by the Board  
35          of Governors of The University of North Carolina should, as near as possible, represent  
36          the geographic areas of the State.

37          (d) Meetings. – The Authority shall meet at a time and place agreed upon by its  
38          member units. At its first meeting, the members shall elect a chairperson and any other  
39          officers that the charter may specify or the members may deem advisable. The  
40          Authority shall then adopt bylaws for the conduct of its business.

41          (e) Fiscal Accountability. – The Authority is a public authority subject to the  
42          provisions of Article 3 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes.

43    **"§ 160A-480.4. Powers of the Authority.**

1       The Authority shall have all of the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and  
2 effectuate the purposes and provisions of this Part. These powers may include any one  
3 or more of the following:

- 4           (1) To apply for, accept, receive, and dispense funds and grants made  
5 available to it by the State or any of its agencies or political  
6 subdivisions, the United States, any member unit, or any private entity.
- 7           (2) To study, design, plan, construct, own, and operate a regional facility.
- 8           (3) To employ personnel.
- 9           (4) To contract with any public or private entity.
- 10          (5) To adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its  
11 business, and to adopt rules in connection with the performance of its  
12 functions and duties.
- 13          (6) To adopt an official seal.
- 14          (7) To acquire and maintain an administrative building or office.
- 15          (8) To sue and be sued in its own name, and to plead and be impleaded.
- 16          (9) To receive, administer, and comply with the conditions and  
17 requirements respecting any gift, grant, or donation of any property or  
18 money.
- 19          (10) To acquire by purchase, lease, gift, or otherwise, or to obtain options  
20 for the acquisition of, any property, real or personal, improved or  
21 unimproved, including an interest in land less than the fee thereof.
- 22          (11) To sell, lease, exchange, transfer, or otherwise dispose of, or to grant  
23 options for any of these purposes with respect to, any real or personal  
24 property or interest therein.
- 25          (12) Subject to the provisions of this Part, to pledge, assign, mortgage, or  
26 otherwise grant a security interest in any real or personal property or  
27 interest therein, including the right and power to pledge, assign, or  
28 otherwise grant a security interest in any money, rents, charges, or  
29 other revenues and any proceeds derived by the Authority from any  
30 and all sources.
- 31          (13) Subject to the provisions of this Part, to borrow money to finance part  
32 or all of a regional facility, to issue revenue bonds or notes, to refund  
33 any revenue bonds or notes issued by the Authority, or to provide  
34 funds for other corporate purposes of the Authority.
- 35          (14) To use officers, employees, agents, and facilities of any member unit  
36 for the purposes and upon the terms that are mutually agreeable to the  
37 member units.
- 38          (15) To develop and make data, plans, information, surveys, and studies of  
39 public facilities within the area where the principal campus of North  
40 Carolina State University is located, and to prepare and make  
41 recommendations in regard thereto.
- 42          (16) To set and collect fees and charges for the use of the regional facility.
- 43          (17) To employ consultants and employees as may be required in the  
44 judgment of the Authority, to fix and pay their compensation from

1 funds available to the Authority, and to pay for services rendered by  
2 underwriters, financial consultants, or bond attorneys in connection  
3 with the issuance of revenue bonds or notes of the Authority out of the  
4 proceeds of the bonds or notes. In employing consultants,  
5 underwriters, attorneys, and others, the Authority shall promote  
6 participation by minority businesses.

7 **"§ 160A-480.5. Withdrawal from Authority.**

8 A member unit may withdraw from the Authority at the end of any fiscal year by  
9 giving at least 60 days' written notice to each of the other member units. A withdrawal  
10 does not affect the validity of any revenue bonds or notes, and any revenue that was  
11 pledged in payment of bonds or notes under a special obligation agreement pursuant to  
12 G.S. 160A-480.10(b) remains pledged for that purpose until the bonds or notes  
13 and interest on the bonds or notes have been paid. Withdrawal of a member unit does  
14 not dissolve the Authority if at least one member unit remains.

15 **"§ 160A-480.6. Dissolution of Authority.**

16 The governing body of the Authority shall dissolve the Authority when it determines  
17 that the purposes for which the Authority was created have been substantially fulfilled  
18 and that all bonds or notes issued by the Authority and all other obligations incurred by  
19 the Authority have been fully paid or satisfied. On the effective date of the resolution  
20 dissolving the Authority, the title to all funds and other property owned by the Authority  
21 at the time of dissolution shall vest in the Board of Governors of The University of  
22 North Carolina or in the member units of local government in the manner specified by  
23 the charter.

24 **"§ 160A-480.7. Construction contracts.**

25 Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes applies to a construction contract of  
26 the Authority. The Authority may solicit bids on the basis of separate specifications for  
27 the branches or work described in G.S. 143-128(a) and on a single-prime contract  
28 basis and accept the lowest bid.

29 **"§ 160A-480.8. Seating at regional facility arena.**

30 The Authority shall ensure that at least fifty percent (50%) of the seats for an athletic  
31 event that is sponsored by North Carolina State University and is held at the arena of the  
32 regional facility are made available to students at North Carolina State University and  
33 members of the general public.

34 **"§ 160A-480.9. Bonds.**

35 (a) Terms. – The Authority may provide for the issuance, at one time or from  
36 time to time, of bonds or notes to carry out its corporate purposes. The principal of, the  
37 interest on, and any premium payable upon the redemption of the bonds or notes shall  
38 be payable from the proceeds of bonds or renewal notes, or, in the event bond or  
39 renewal note proceeds are not available, from any available revenues or other funds  
40 provided for this purpose. The bonds or notes of each issue shall be dated and may be  
41 made redeemable prior to maturity at the option of the Authority or otherwise, at one or  
42 more prices, on one or more dates, and upon the terms and conditions set by the  
43 Authority. The bonds or notes may also be made payable from time to time on demand  
44 or tender for purchase by the owner upon terms and conditions set by the Authority.

1 Notes and bonds shall mature at times determined by the Authority, not exceeding 40  
2 years from the date of issue. The Authority shall determine the form and the manner of  
3 execution of the bonds or notes, and shall fix the denomination of the bonds or notes  
4 and the place of payment of principal and interest. In case an officer whose signature or  
5 a facsimile of whose signature shall appear on any bonds or notes shall cease to be an  
6 officer before the delivery of the bond or note, the signature or facsimile shall  
7 nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same as if the officer had  
8 remained in office until delivery. The Authority may also provide for the authentication  
9 of the bonds or notes by a trustee or fiscal agent.

10 Bonds or notes may be issued under this Part without obtaining, except as otherwise  
11 expressly provided in this Part, the consent of any department, division, commission,  
12 board, body, bureau, or other agency of the State or a political subdivision the State, and  
13 without any other proceedings or conditions except as specifically required by this Part  
14 or the provisions of the resolution authorizing the issuance of, or any trust agreement  
15 securing, the bonds or notes.

16 Prior to the reparation of definitive bonds, the Authority may issue interim receipts  
17 or temporary bonds exchangeable for definitive bonds when the bonds have been  
18 executed and are available for delivery. The Authority may also provide for the  
19 replacement of any bonds or notes which have been mutilated, destroyed, or lost.

20 (b) Use of Proceeds. – The proceeds of a bond or note shall be used solely for the  
21 purposes for which the bond or note was issued and shall be disbursed in accordance  
22 with the resolution authorizing the issuance of bond or note and with any trust  
23 agreement securing the bond or note. If the proceeds of a bond or note of any issue, by  
24 reason of increased construction costs or error in estimates or otherwise, shall be less  
25 than than cost, additional bonds or notes may in like manner be issued to provide the  
26 amount of the deficiency.

27 (c) Security. – Bonds or notes issued by the Authority may be secured in one or  
28 more of the following ways:

29 (1) By the revenues of the regional facility.

30 (2) By debt service subsidy payments.

31 (3) By security interests in real or personal property acquired with the  
32 proceeds of the bonds or notes or improved with the proceeds of the  
33 bonds or notes.

34 The security for the bonds or notes shall be specified in the resolution or trust  
35 instrument authorizing the bonds or notes.

36 (d) Revenues. – The Authority may pledge to the payment of its revenue bonds  
37 or notes the revenues from the regional facility, including revenues from improvements,  
38 betterments, or extensions to the facility. The Authority may establish, maintain, revise,  
39 charge, and collect such rates, fees, rentals, or other charges for the use, services, and  
40 facilities of or furnished by any facility project, and to provide methods of collection of  
41 and penalties for nonpayment of these rates, fees, rentals, or other charges. Except as  
42 otherwise permitted, the rates, fees, rentals, and charges fixed and charged shall be in an  
43 amount that will produce sufficient revenues, with any other available funds, to meet the  
44 maintenance and operation expenses of the regional facility, as well as any

1 improvements and renewals and replacements to the facility, including reserves to pay  
2 the principal, interest, and redemption premium due, if any, on any bonds or notes  
3 secured by the facility, and to fulfill the terms of any agreements made by the Authority  
4 with the holders of bonds or notes secured by revenues of the facility. In the event that  
5 bonds or notes are to be secured by the revenues of the regional facility or by debt  
6 service subsidy payments, the Authority may adjust the rates, fees, and charges to be  
7 collected to reflect the anticipated receipt of funds from debt service subsidy payments.

8 (e) Debt Service Subsidy Payments. – Bonds or notes may be secured by and  
9 payable from debt service subsidy payments to be received by the Authority from its  
10 member units as provided by G.S. 160A-480.10; provided, however, that the  
11 agreements and undertakings by the member units to pay such payments shall not  
12 obligate the unit of local government to exercise any power of taxation by the local unit,  
13 all as more fully provided in G.S. 160A-480.10. The Authority may accept debt service  
14 subsidy payments from its member units and enter into memoranda of understanding or  
15 similar documents relating to the debt service subsidy payments. The Authority may  
16 agree to apply to the payment of its bonds or notes all amounts so received.

17 (f) Security Interests. – Bonds or notes may be secured by security interests in  
18 any real or personal property either acquired with the proceeds of bonds or notes, or  
19 upon which improvements are provided from the proceeds of bonds or notes. The  
20 security interest may cover all real and personal property acquired or improved or any  
21 portion of the property. The Authority is authorized to enter into deeds of trust,  
22 mortgages, security agreements, and similar instruments as shall be necessary to carry  
23 out the powers in this subsection. Bonds or notes may also be secured by security  
24 interests in any real or personal property conveyed to the Authority by any of its  
25 member units or any other person.

26 In the event the Authority fails to perform its obligations with respect to the bonds or  
27 notes and foreclosure or similar sale of property subject to a security interest occurs, a  
28 deficiency judgment may not be rendered against the Authority except to the extent that  
29 the deficiency is payable from either revenues from the regional facility or debt service  
30 subsidy payments.

31 (g) Issuance. – The issuance of bonds or notes of the Authority is subject to the  
32 approval of the Local Government Commission. Upon the filing with the Local  
33 Government Commission of a resolution of the Authority requesting that its bonds or  
34 notes be sold, the Commission shall determine the manner in which the bonds or notes  
35 will be sold and the price or prices at which the bonds or notes will be sold. With the  
36 approval of the Authority, the Local Government Commission shall sell the bonds or  
37 notes either at public or private sale in the manner and at the prices determined to be in  
38 the best interests of the Authority and to effect the purposes of this Part.

39 **"§ 160A-480.10. Debt service subsidy payments; special obligation agreements.**

40 (a) Debt Service Subsidy Payments. – In addition to the other powers of a unit of  
41 local government, any unit of local government that is a member unit of the Authority  
42 may by resolution undertake commitments to contribute debt service subsidy payments  
43 to the Authority to be applied to pay principal and interest on bonds or notes of the  
44 Authority issued under the provisions of this Part. This commitment may be for a

1 specified amount, cover payments to be made during a specified time period, be limited  
2 to funds derived from a specified source, provide for the amount of the contributions to  
3 be based upon a formula, or contain such other terms and conditions as the governing  
4 body of the unit of local government shall determine and set forth in the resolution  
5 expressing the undertaking. The resolution shall state that the payment by the unit of  
6 local government of a debt service subsidy payment is subject to the appropriation by  
7 the governing body of the unit of local government of amounts sufficient to pay such  
8 payment, and that the unit of local government is not obligated to appropriate this  
9 amount.

10 (b) Special Obligation Agreements. – In addition to the powers of a unit of local  
11 government set forth in subsection (a) of this section, a unit of local government that is  
12 a member unit of the Authority may enter into a special obligation agreement to pay  
13 debt service subsidy payments to the Authority to be applied to pay principal and  
14 interest on bonds or notes of the Authority issued under the provisions of this Part.  
15 Such payments may be derived from any available source or sources of revenues of the  
16 unit, provided that the agreement to use these sources to make payments does not  
17 constitute a pledge of the unit's taxing power. To the extent that the generation of the  
18 revenues is within the power of the unit, the unit of local government may enter into  
19 covenants to take action to generate the revenues, provided the covenant to generate  
20 revenues does not constitute a pledge of the unit's taxing power.

21 The obligation of a unit of local government with respect to the sources of payment  
22 shall be specifically identified in the proceedings of the governing body authorizing the  
23 unit to enter the special obligation agreement. The sources of payment so specifically  
24 identified and then held or thereafter received by a unit or any fiduciary of the unit shall  
25 immediately be subject to the lien of the Authority's bond resolution or trust instrument  
26 without any physical delivery or other act. The lien shall be valid and binding against  
27 all parties who have claims of any kind against the unit, regardless of whether the  
28 parties have notice the lien.

29 **"§ 160A-480.11. Trust agreement or resolution.**

30 In the discretion of the Authority, any bonds or notes issued under this Part may be  
31 secured by a trust instrument between the Authority and a bank or trust company or  
32 individual within the State, or a bank or a trust company without the State, as trustee.  
33 The trust instrument or the resolution of the Authority authorizing the issuance of bonds  
34 or notes may pledge and assign all or any part of the revenues, funds, and other property  
35 provided for the security of the bonds, including proceeds from the sale of any project,  
36 or part thereof, insurance proceeds, and condemnation awards, and may convey or  
37 mortgage property to secure a bond issue as herein provided.

38 The revenues and other funds derived from the project, except such part thereof as  
39 may be necessary to provide reserves therefor, if any, shall be set aside at such regular  
40 intervals as may be provided in such resolution or trust instrument in a sinking fund  
41 which may be thereby pledged to, and charged with, the payment of the principal of and  
42 the interest on such bonds or notes as the same shall become due and the redemption  
43 price or the purchase price of bonds retired by call or purchase as therein provided.  
44 Such pledge shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is made. The

1 revenues so pledged and thereafter received by the Authority shall immediately be  
2 subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act,  
3 and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having  
4 claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against the Authority, irrespective of  
5 whether such parties have notice thereof. The use and disposition of money to the credit  
6 of such sinking fund shall be subject to the provisions of the resolution or trust  
7 instrument. Such resolution or trust instrument may contain such provisions for  
8 protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of the bondholders as may be  
9 reasonable and proper and not in violation of law, including, without limitation, any one  
10 or more of the following:

- 11 (1) Acceleration of all amounts payable under the resolution or trust  
12 instrument;
- 13 (2) Appointment of a receiver to manage the project and any other  
14 property mortgaged or assigned as security for the bonds;
- 15 (3) Foreclosure and sale of the project and any other property mortgaged  
16 or assigned as security for the bonds; and
- 17 (4) Rights to bring and maintain such other actions at law or in equity as  
18 may appear necessary or desirable to collect the amounts payable  
19 under, or to enforce the covenants made in, the security document.

20 It shall be lawful for any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of this  
21 State which may act as depository of the proceeds of bonds, revenues, or other funds  
22 provided under this Part to furnish such indemnifying bonds or to pledge such securities  
23 as may be required by the Authority. All expenses incurred in carrying out the  
24 provisions of such resolution or trust instrument may be treated as a part of the cost of  
25 the project in connection with which bonds or notes are issued or as an expense of  
26 administration of such project.

27 The Authority may subordinate bonds or notes to any prior, contemporaneous, or  
28 future securities or obligations or lien, mortgage, or other security interest securing  
29 bonds or notes.

30 **"§ 160A-480.12. Trust funds.**

31 Notwithstanding any of the provisions of law to the contrary, all money received  
32 pursuant to the Authority of this Part, whether as proceeds from the sale of bonds or  
33 notes or as revenues, shall be deemed to be trust funds to be held and applied solely as  
34 provided in this Part. The resolution authorizing the issuance of, or the trust agreement  
35 securing, any bonds or notes may provide that any of such moneys may be temporarily  
36 invested and reinvested pending the disbursement thereof and shall provide that any  
37 officer with whom, or any bank or trust company with which, such moneys shall be  
38 deposited shall act as trustee of such moneys and shall hold and apply the same for the  
39 purpose hereof, subject to such regulations as this Part and such resolution or trust  
40 agreement may provide. Any such moneys may be invested as provided in G.S. 159-30,  
41 as it may be amended from time to time.

42 **"§ 160A-480.13. Faith and credit of State and units of local government not**  
43 **pledged.**



1 Bonds or notes issued under this Part shall not constitute a debt secured by a pledge  
2 of the faith and credit of the State or a political subdivision of the State and shall be  
3 payable solely from the revenues, property, and other funds pledged for their payment.  
4 The bonds or notes issued by the Authority shall contain a statement that the Authority  
5 is obligated to pay the bond or note or the interest on the bond or note only from the  
6 revenues, property, or other funds pledged for their payment and that neither the faith  
7 and credit nor the taxing power of the State or any political subdivision of the State is  
8 pledged as security for the payment of the principal of or the interest or premium on the  
9 bonds or notes.

10 **"§ 160A-480.14. Revenue refunding bonds.**

11 The Authority may issue refunding bonds or notes for one or more of the following  
12 purposes:

- 13 (1) Refunding any outstanding bonds or notes issued under this Part,  
14 including any redemption premium on the bonds or notes and any  
15 interest accrued or to accrue to the date of redemption.
- 16 (2) Constructing improvements, additions, extensions or enlargements of  
17 the project, or projects in connection with which the bonds or notes to  
18 be refunded shall have been issued.
- 19 (3) Paying all or any part of the cost of any additional project or projects.

20 Refunding bonds or notes shall be issued in accordance with the same procedures  
21 and requirements as bonds or notes. Refunding bonds issued under this section may be  
22 sold or exchanged for outstanding bonds or notes issued under this Part and, if sold, the  
23 proceeds of the refunding bonds may be applied, in addition to any authorized purposes,  
24 to the purchase, redemption, or payment of outstanding bonds or notes.

25 Pending the application of the proceeds of refunding bonds, with any other available  
26 funds, to the payment of the principal of and accrued interest and any redemption  
27 premium on the bonds or notes being refunded, and, if so provided or permitted in  
28 securing the same, to the payment of any interest on such refunding bonds and any  
29 expenses in connection with such refunding, such proceeds may be invested in direct  
30 obligations of, or obligations the principal of and the interest on which are  
31 unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States of America which shall mature or  
32 which shall be subject to redemption by the holder thereof, at the option of such holder,  
33 not later than the respective dates when the proceeds, together with the interest accruing  
34 thereon, will be required for the purposes intended.

35 **"§ 160A-480.15. Bonds eligible for investment.**

36 Bonds and notes issued under Part are hereby made securities in which all public  
37 officers, agencies, and public bodies of the State and its political subdivisions, all  
38 insurance companies, trust companies, investment companies, banks, savings banks,  
39 building and loan associations, credit unions, pension or retirement funds, other  
40 financial institutions engaged in business in the State, executors, administrators,  
41 trustees, and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, including capital in  
42 their control or belonging to them. These bonds or notes are hereby made securities that  
43 may properly and legally be deposited with and received by any officer or agency of the  
44 State or political subdivision of the State for any purpose for which the deposit of

1 bonds, notes, or obligations of the State or any political subdivision is authorized by  
2 law. This section does not apply to any State pension or retirement fund or a pension or  
3 retirement fund of a political subdivision of the State.

4 **"§ 160A-480.16. Taxation of revenue bonds.**

5 Any bonds or notes issued by an Authority under the provisions of this Part are  
6 exempt from State income taxes to the same extent that federal bonds or notes are  
7 exempt from State income taxes.

8 **"§ 160A-480.17. Members and officers not liable.**

9 No member or officer of the Authority shall be subject to any personal liability or  
10 accountability by reason of the execution of any bonds or notes or the issuance of any  
11 bonds or notes."

12           Sec. 2. The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act is  
13 declared invalid by a court, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
14 applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or  
15 application.

16           Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.