

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1993**

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SENATE BILL 1236

Short Title: Minority Males Comm'n/Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford; Jordan and Hunt.

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Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

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June 16, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE STATUS OF MINORITY MALES STUDY  
COMMISSION.

Whereas, quality of life indicators related to racial minority male children and youth suggest that, for whatever reasons, this population is disproportionately represented at the negative end of the scale; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of North Carolina citizens that serious efforts be undertaken to identify and develop successful approaches for moving racial minority male children and youth toward the positive end of the scale; and

Whereas, it is often asserted that in addressing problems, efforts should not be focused on a specific identified group of persons since whatever problems exist are usually not limited to that identified group; and

Whereas, the tendency to address problems related to an identified group only in the context of that total population often leads to the continuation and escalation of the problem areas; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of North Carolina citizens that a coordinated strategy be developed for implementing measures designed to yield positive results for racial minority male children and youth; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. (a) The Status of Minority Males Study Commission is created. The Commission shall consist of 16 members, as follows:

- (1) Five Senators and three public members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Of the public members, at least one should bring a research-based focus to the Commission; and

1           (2) Five Representatives and three public members appointed by the  
2           Speaker of the House of Representatives. Of the public members, at  
3           least one should possess a background in administering community-  
4           based programs that work with racial minority male children and youth  
5           and their families.

6           (b) Initial appointments to the Commission shall be made before September 10,  
7           1993. The first meeting of the Commission shall be held no later than October 4, 1993.

8           Sec. 2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator  
9           as cochair and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one  
10          Representative as cochair.

11          Sec. 3. The Commission shall be authorized to:

12          (1) Gather accurate and reliable data and research information pertaining  
13          to the status of racial minority male children and youth in North  
14          Carolina and other states;

15          (2) Identify and visit programs and other efforts within and outside North  
16          Carolina that appear to be successful in yielding significant positive  
17          results for racial minority male children and youth;

18          (3) Consult with higher education faculty members and other persons who  
19          have been engaged in extensive research and observation related to  
20          these issues, and encourage their direct involvement in the activities of  
21          the Commission;

22          (4) Conduct hearings throughout the State for the purpose of obtaining  
23          meaningful information regarding successful programs and efforts  
24          related to these concerns;

25          (5) Identify, consult, and meet with representatives of national, regional,  
26          and state-level organizations and agencies that could be particularly  
27          helpful in addressing these concerns;

28          (6) Devise recommendations as to steps that should be taken to address  
29          these concerns – steps to be taken separately and collectively by:

30           a. State government;

31           b. Local governments;

32           c. Public schools and higher education institutions;

33           d. Nonprofit organizations, including community-based  
34           organizations, with a particular emphasis on those with direct  
35           ties to families of these children and youth;

36           e. Foundations;

37           f. Religious institutes;

38           g. Civic organizations;

39           h. Business and industry;

40           i. Other entities; and

41          (7) Determine the extent and categories of fiscal and human resources  
42          needed to address the identified concerns.

43          Sec. 4. In the study, particular emphasis should be placed on programs and  
44          efforts that have been successful in imparting:

- 1 (1) Self-respect and respect for others;
- 2 (2) Responsibility for self and others;
- 3 (3) Positive male-female and family relationships;
- 4 (4) Understanding as to the extent to which self-motivation, inspiration,  
5 positive self-image and vision impact upon the level of success in life;
- 6 (5) Significant understanding of the principles undergirding the economic,  
7 civic and social structures of the State and nation;
- 8 (6) A meaningful sense of the relationship between choices and  
9 consequences;
- 10 (7) Healthy physical and emotional lifestyles; and
- 11 (8) Alternatives to violence and other nonproductive modes of human  
12 behavior.

13 Sec. 5. The Commission may make an interim report of its findings and  
14 recommendations to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
15 House of Representatives on or before the first day of the 1994 Regular Session of the  
16 1993 General Assembly. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and  
17 recommendations to the General Assembly on or before the first day of the 1995  
18 Session by filing the report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the  
19 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Upon filing its final report, the Commission  
20 shall terminate.

21 Sec. 6. The Commission, while in the discharge of official duties, may  
22 exercise all the powers provided for under the provisions of G.S. 120-19, and G.S. 120-  
23 19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call  
24 of the cochairs. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the  
25 Legislative Office Building.

26 Sec. 7. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel  
27 expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1.

28 Sec. 8. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant  
29 services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Legislative Services Commission, through  
30 the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in the  
31 work of the Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisor of  
32 Clerks shall assign clerical staff to the Commission, upon the direction of the  
33 Legislative Services Commission. The expenses relating to clerical employees shall be  
34 borne by the Commission.

35 Sec. 9. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission the  
36 vacancy shall be filled by the same appointing officer who made the initial appointment.

37 Sec. 10. All State departments and agencies and local governments and their  
38 subdivisions shall furnish the Commission with any information in their possession or  
39 available to them.

40 Sec. 11. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General  
41 Assembly the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal  
42 year and the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year  
43 for the expenses of the Commission.

44 Sec. 12. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.