

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

EXTRA SESSION 1994

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SENATE BILL 82

Short Title: Welfare Reform Study.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Cochrane, Kerr; Hartsell, Hoyle, Forrester, Warren, Plexico, Speed, Cooper, Gunter, Winner of Buncombe, Allran, Ward, Walker, Smith, Lee, Harris, Kincaid, and Simpson.

Referred to: Courts.

February 11, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE STUDY ON WELFARE REFORM,
2 WHICH REFORM WILL EFFECT SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM CRIME
3 PREVENTION.
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is created the Legislative Study Commission on Welfare
7 Reform. The Commission shall consist of 14 members as follows:

- 8 (1) Five Senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- 9 (2) Two persons appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
10 who are not members of the General Assembly;
- 11 (3) Five members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
- 13 (4) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives who are not members of the General Assembly.

15 Sec. 2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator
16 as cochair and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one
17 Representative as cochair.

18 Sec. 3. The Commission shall study the whole issue of the need for welfare
19 reform in light of the current social crisis caused, in part, by the rapidly increasing
20 incidence of violent crimes committed by people who have been raised by families who
21 have been receiving welfare but who have not been able to impart responsibility and
22 maturity of judgment and expectations to their children. This study shall include:

- 1 (1) A reexamination of the whole purpose of the welfare system and an
2 identification of those disincentives to raising responsible, independent
3 participants in society that are built into the system;
4 (2) An analysis of the federal welfare reform proposals and of other states'
5 initiatives; and
6 (3) A compilation and detailed examination, including detailed fiscal
7 analysis, of proposals to reform the welfare system totally, not just to
8 amend mere pieces of it.

9 Sec. 4. The Commission may submit an interim report to the General
10 Assembly on or before the first day of the 1994 Regular Session of the 1993 General
11 Assembly and shall submit a final report, including a complete proposal for welfare
12 reform, to the 1995 General Assembly within one week of its convening, by filing the
13 report with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives. Upon filing its final report, 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 cochairs. 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 the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal year and
36 the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year for the expenses
37 of the Commission.

38 Sec. 11. This act is effective upon ratification.