

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 807

Short Title: Regional Vocational Authorities.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Perdue.

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Referred to: Children and Human Resources

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April 24, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AUTHORIZING COUNTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVES THROUGH THE CREATION OF REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Chapter 153A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

**"ARTICLE 19A.**

**"REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES.**

**"§ 153A-399. Regional vocational services authorities; intent; creation; status of authority.**

(a) A county may join with one or more counties to merge the funding, administration, and the provision of vocational services, training, and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities or other barriers to employment, as defined by federal or State law, through the creation of a regional vocational services authority. It is the intent of the General Assembly to support local initiatives to provide vocational services, training, and employment opportunities which are responsive to the needs of citizens of the State by authorizing counties to participate in regional vocational services authorities.

1       **(b)** A regional vocational services authority shall be created by the county boards  
2 of commissioners of each county to be a part of the regional authority upon their adoption  
3 of concurrent resolutions approving the operating bylaws of the regional authority. The  
4 boards of commissioners of participating counties may adopt other governing documents  
5 deemed necessary by the participating counties, including any interlocal agreement  
6 entered into pursuant to Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes. Before  
7 approving participation in a regional vocational services authority, the board of  
8 commissioners of each county to be a part of the regional authority shall hold a public  
9 hearing with notice published at least 10 days before the hearing.

10       **(c)** A regional vocational services authority created pursuant to this Article is a  
11 body politic and corporate and a local political subdivision of the State.

12 **"§ 153A-399.1. Structure of regional board of directors.**

13       **(a)** The regional vocational services authority shall be governed by a board of  
14 directors comprised of no less than 11 members and no more than 25 members. The size  
15 of the regional board may be changed from time to time by agreement of the boards of  
16 county commissioners of the counties participating in the regional authority.

17       **(b)** The members of the board of directors of a regional vocational services  
18 authority shall be appointed by the board of commissioners of each participating county  
19 in accordance with the bylaws of the regional authority. The regional board shall include  
20 representatives from the fields of education, local government, business and industry, and  
21 banking and from the media. The terms of members of the regional board shall be as  
22 designated in the bylaws of the regional authority. A member of the regional board may  
23 be removed, with or without cause, by the entity that appointed the member to the board  
24 or as otherwise provided by the bylaws of the regional authority.

25       **(c)** The regional board shall include at least one county commissioner from each  
26 county participating in the regional authority. The terms of county commissioners serving  
27 on a regional board are concurrent with their terms as county commissioners.

28 **"§ 153A-399.2. Powers and duties of regional board; property and operations of**  
29 **regional authority.**

30       **(a)** The board of directors of the regional vocational services authority shall  
31 develop and implement policies necessary for the administration and operation of the  
32 authority and shall have the powers necessary for the administration of the affairs of the  
33 authority and to carry out the purposes of the authority. All corporate powers of the  
34 regional authority, except those specified, granted, or reserved for joint action of the  
35 participating counties, by statute or pursuant to the bylaws of the regional authority, shall  
36 be vested in the board of directors of the regional authority.

37       **(b)** The legal title to all real property provided by a county for use by the regional  
38 authority shall be identified as and shall remain the property of that county.

39       **(c)** Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the regional  
40 authority may receive and its board of directors shall administer any contributions or  
41 bequests of money and other property, real or personal, which shall be used by the  
42 authority for the purposes of carrying out its vocational services, training, and  
43 employment opportunity program.

1 (d) The regional authority shall be financed by the sale of program services to  
 2 State, federal, and private rehabilitation programs, training and employment opportunity  
 3 contracts as provided under the federal Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act, community support,  
 4 and by participating counties. The regional authority may accept and spend any other  
 5 federal funds that from time to time may be made available.

6 (e) Subject to provisions of G.S. 159-189, the board of directors of a regional  
 7 authority may, on behalf of the regional authority, incur short-term debt, purchase and  
 8 lease personal and real property, pledge and sell the property, and make contracts and  
 9 agreements in prosecution of the purposes and operations of the regional authority."

10 Sec. 2. Chapter 159 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
 11 Article to read:

12 **"ARTICLE 12A.**

13 **"BORROWING BY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES.**

14 **"§ 159-189. Borrowing authority.**

15 A regional vocational services authority created pursuant to Article 19A of Chapter  
 16 153A of the General Statutes, and having as its purpose to provide vocational services,  
 17 training, and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities or other barriers to  
 18 employment, shall have authority to incur short-term debt and to execute and deliver  
 19 obligations for the repayment thereof and to encumber its property for the purpose of  
 20 securing any such obligation, and to execute and deliver such mortgages, deeds of trust,  
 21 and other instruments as are necessary or proper for such purpose; provided, that such  
 22 obligations shall be repayable only from the revenues of such authority.

23 Insofar as the provisions of this section are not consistent with the provisions of any  
 24 other section or law, public or private, the provisions of this section shall be controlling."

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