

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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SENATE BILL 810

Short Title: Increase Use of Public Defenders. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Rand.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

April 3, 2003

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO FACILITATE THE FORMATION OF ADDITIONAL PUBLIC
3 DEFENDER OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE, AS RECOMMENDED BY
4 THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION TO PROMOTE GOVERNMENT
5 EFFICIENCY AND SAVINGS ON STATE SPENDING.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 7A-498.7(a) reads as rewritten:

8 "(a) ~~The following counties of the State are organized into the defender districts~~
9 ~~listed below, and in each of those defender districts an office of public defender is~~
10 ~~established:~~

<u>Defender District</u>	<u>Counties</u>
3A	Pitt
3B	Carteret
12	Cumberland
14	Durham
15B	Orange, Chatham
16A	Scotland, Hoke
16B	Robeson
18	Guilford
21	Forsyth
26	Mecklenburg
27A	Gaston
28	Buncombe

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27 After notice to, and consultation with, the affected district bar, senior resident superior
28 court judge, and chief district court judge, the Commission on Indigent Defense
29 Services may ~~recommend to the General Assembly that a district or regional public~~

1 ~~defender office be established. A legislative act is required in order to establish a new~~
2 ~~office or to abolish an existing office. establish district and regional public defender~~
3 ~~offices.~~"

4 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.