

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE DRH60333-LL-261 (5/1)**

Short Title: Regional Jails Evaluation Funds. (Public)

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Sponsors: Representative Braxton.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE GOVERNOR'S CRIME  
3 COMMISSION TO ASSIST SHERIFFS IN NORTH CAROLINA IN  
4 EVALUATING THE ADVISABILITY OF CONSTRUCTING REGIONAL JAILS  
5 FOR JOINT USE BY SHERIFFS OF MULTIPLE COUNTIES AND TO  
6 DETERMINE IF REGIONAL JAILS ARE ADVISABLE AND FEASIBLE.

7       Whereas, the constitutionally elected sheriff of each county has responsibility  
8 for the care and custody of the jail in the sheriff's county; and

9       Whereas, criminal defendants in custody awaiting trial are confined in the  
10 county jail in the custody of the sheriff; and

11       Whereas, convicted prisoners sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to  
12 90 days serve such sentence of imprisonment in the county jail; and

13       Whereas, adequate capacity of county jails is a recurring issue for sheriffs  
14 across North Carolina; and

15       Whereas, the General Assembly of North Carolina wishes to enable North  
16 Carolina's sheriffs to investigate, consider, and evaluate the advisability of constructing  
17 regional jails for joint use by sheriffs of multiple counties and to further enable the  
18 sheriffs to determine if regional jails are advisable and feasible; Now, therefore,  
19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20       **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
21 Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Governor's Crime Commission, the  
22 sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and  
23 the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year  
24 to provide a grant to the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, Inc., to: (i) investigate,  
25 consider, and evaluate the advisability of constructing regional jails for joint use by  
26 sheriffs of multiple counties; and (ii) determine if regional jails are advisable and  
27 feasible.

1           **SECTION 2.** The North Carolina Sheriffs' Association shall issue a  
2 preliminary report to the General Assembly no later than April 1, 2008, and a final  
3 report no later than April 1, 2009, on the feasibility and advisability of constructing  
4 regional jails for joint use by sheriffs of multiple counties by filing the report with the  
5 cochairs of the Joint Legislative Correction, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice  
6 Oversight Committee.

7           **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.