

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 310

Short Title: Treasury Administrative Changes.-AB (Public)

Sponsors: Senators McInnis, Alexander, and Chaudhuri (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 17, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT MAKING CLARIFYING AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO LAWS  
RELATING TO THE STATE TREASURER'S INVESTMENT PROGRAMS, THE LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT COMMISSION, AND REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF  
STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**PART I. CLARIFYING AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO LAWS RELATING  
TO THE STATE TREASURER'S INVESTMENT PROGRAMS**

**SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 147-69.3 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 147-69.3. Administration of State Treasurer's investment programs.**

...

(i3) The Treasurer may invest in the countries of Sudan and South Sudan to the extent not prohibited by the United States Government, or to the extent that such investment is part of an index or index replication strategy, a commingled fund, limited partnership, or similar investment vehicle, or a derivative instrument.

...."

**SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 147-86.57 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 147-86.57. Definitions.**

As used in this Article:

...

(3) "Investment" means a commitment or contribution of funds or property, whatever the source, a loan or other extension of credit, and the entry into or renewal of a contract for goods or services. It does not include ~~beneficial ownership through index funds, or index replication strategies,~~ commingled funds, limited partnerships, or similar investment vehicles, or derivative instruments, or the like.

...."

**SECTION 1.(c)** Article 6D of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes is repealed.

**PART II. CLARIFYING AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO LAWS RELATING  
TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION**

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 143-128.1C reads as rewritten:

**"§ 143-128.1C. Public-private partnership construction contracts.**

...



1 (b) If the governmental entity determines in writing that it has a critical need for a capital  
2 improvement project, the governmental entity may acquire, construct, own, lease as lessor or  
3 lessee, and operate or participate in the acquisition, construction, ownership, leasing, and  
4 operation of a public-private project, or of specific facilities within such a project, including the  
5 making of loans and grants from funds available to the governmental entity for these purposes.  
6 If the governmental entity is a public body under Article 33C of this Chapter, the determination  
7 shall occur during an open meeting of that public body. The governmental entity may enter into  
8 development contracts with private developers with respect to acquiring, constructing, owning,  
9 leasing, or operating a project under this section. If the development contract is entered into by a  
10 governmental entity that is a unit of local government as defined in G.S. 159-7, and the unit must  
11 finance all or part of its portion of the cost of the project, then the amount financed by the unit is  
12 subject to approval by the Local Government Commission as provided in Chapter 159 of the  
13 General Statutes. Approval must be secured prior to the execution of the development contract.

14 The development contract shall specify the following:

- 15 (1) The property interest of the governmental entity and all other participants in  
16 the development of the project.
- 17 (2) The responsibilities of the governmental entity and all other participants in the  
18 development of the project.
- 19 (3) The responsibilities of the governmental entity and all other participants with  
20 respect to financing of the project.
- 21 (4) The responsibilities to put forth a good-faith effort to comply with  
22 G.S. 143-128.2, G.S. 143-128.4, and to recruit and select small business  
23 entities.

24 ...."

25 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 159-28 reads as rewritten:

26 "**§ 159-28. Budgetary accounting for appropriations.**

27 ...

28 (a3) Use of Automated System for Preaudit. – An automated financial computer system  
29 may be used to meet the requirements of subsection (a1) of this section if an annual certification  
30 is filed with the Secretary of the Commission pursuant to subsection (a4) of this section. The  
31 provisions of this subsection do not apply to transactions exempted by statute from the preaudit  
32 requirement. The automated computer system must have all of the following:

- 33 (1) Embedded functionality that determines that there is an appropriation to the  
34 department, function code, or project in which the transaction appropriately  
35 falls.
- 36 (2) Functionality ensuring that unencumbered funds remain in the appropriation  
37 to pay out any amounts that are expected to come due during the budgeted  
38 period.
- 39 (3) Real-time visibility to budget compliance, alert threshold notifications, and  
40 rules-based compliance measures and enforcement.

41 (a4) Annual Certification of Automated Preaudit System. – When an automated financial  
42 computer system is used to meet the requirements of subsection (a1) of this section, the finance  
43 officer shall certify to the Secretary of the Commission no later than 30 days after the start of the  
44 unit's or public authority's fiscal year that the automated financial computer system meets all the  
45 requirements of subsection (a3) of this section. The Secretary may reject or revoke the finance  
46 officer's certification if the annual audit for the unit's or public authority's immediately preceding  
47 fiscal year includes a finding of budgetary noncompliance or if the Secretary determines that the  
48 automated financial computer system fails to meet the requirements of subsection (a3) of this  
49 section.

50 ...."

51 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 159-181 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 159-181. Enforcement of Chapter.**

2 ...

3 (c) The Local Government Commission shall have authority to impound the books and  
 4 records of any unit of local government or public authority and assume full control of all its  
 5 financial affairs (i) when the unit or authority defaults on any debt service payment or, in the  
 6 opinion of the Commission, will default on a future debt service payment if the financial policies  
 7 and practices of the unit or authority are not improved, ~~or~~ (ii) when the unit or authority persists,  
 8 after notice and warning from the Commission, in willfully or negligently failing or refusing to  
 9 comply with the provisions of this ~~Chapter.~~ Chapter, or (iii) when the General Assembly suspends  
 10 the charter of a municipality. When the Commission takes action under this section, the  
 11 Commission is vested with all of the powers of the governing board as to the levy of taxes,  
 12 expenditure of money, adoption of budgets, and all other financial powers conferred upon the  
 13 governing board by law. If the unit of local government or public authority failed to submit  
 14 annual audit reports as required by G.S. 159-34(a), the Commission may waive the audit  
 15 requirement in G.S. 159-34(a) for any or all of the missing reports provided that the use of all  
 16 grant funds and borrowed funds is documented to the satisfaction of the grantors and lenders. If  
 17 the Commission waives the annual audit requirement, the Commission shall consider making a  
 18 recommendation to the General Assembly or other organizing body for the revocation of the  
 19 charter or the dissolution of the unit of local government or public authority. This subsection (e)  
 20 does not apply to contractual obligations undertaken by a unit of local government in a debt  
 21 instrument issued pursuant to Chapter 159G of the General Statutes unless such debt instrument  
 22 is secured by a pledge of the faith and credit of the unit of local government.

23 ...."

24 **SECTION 4.(b)** The Local Government Commission shall have the authority to  
 25 impound the books and records and take any other action authorized by G.S. 159-181, as  
 26 amended by subsection (a) of this section, with respect to the Towns of Eureka and Spencer  
 27 Mountain, whose charters were suspended in S.L. 2019-29 and S.L. 2016-45, as amended by S.L.  
 28 2019-29, respectively.

29 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 115C-218.30 reads as rewritten:

30 **"§ 115C-218.30. Accountability; reporting requirements to State Board of Education.**

31 (a) The school is subject to the financial audits, the audit procedures, and the audit  
 32 requirements adopted by the State Board of Education for charter schools. These audit  
 33 requirements may include the requirements of the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The  
 34 audit requirements shall not include submission to, review of, or approval by, the Local  
 35 Government Commission for any audit reports, audit contracts, or audit invoices, nor shall they  
 36 require any other authority, involvement, or oversight by the Local Government Commission  
 37 with regard to financial reporting, accountability requirements, or procedures.

38 (b) The school shall comply with the reporting requirements established by the State  
 39 Board of Education in the Uniform Education Reporting System.

40 (c) The school shall report at least annually to the State Board of Education the  
 41 information required by the State Board."

42  
 43 **PART III. CLARIFYING AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO A LAW RELATING**  
 44 **TO REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE**

45 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 116-37 reads as rewritten:

46 **"§ 116-37. University of North Carolina Health Care System.**

47 ...

48 (i) Property. – The board of directors shall establish rules and regulations for acquiring  
 49 or disposing of any interest in real property for the use of the University of North Carolina Health  
 50 Care System. These rules and regulations shall include provisions for development of  
 51 specifications, advertisement, and negotiations with owners for acquisition by purchase, gift,

1 lease, or rental, but not by condemnation or exercise of eminent domain, on behalf of the  
2 University of North Carolina Health Care System. This section does not authorize the board of  
3 directors to encumber real property. The board of directors shall submit all initial policies and  
4 regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection to the State Property Office for review upon  
5 adoption by the board. Any subsequent changes to these policies and regulations adopted by the  
6 board shall be submitted to the State Property Office for review. Any comments by the State  
7 Property Office shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer and to the President of The  
8 University of North Carolina. After review by the Attorney General as to form and after the  
9 consummation of any such acquisition, the University of North Carolina Health Care System  
10 shall promptly file a report concerning the acquisition or disposition with the ~~Governor and~~  
11 ~~Council of State.~~ Governor. Acquisitions and dispositions of any interest in real property pursuant  
12 to this section shall not be subject to the provisions of Article 36 of Chapter 143 of the General  
13 Statutes or the provisions of Chapter 146 of the General Statutes.

14 ...."

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16 **PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

17 **SECTION 7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.