

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 446

Short Title: Partnership for Quality Growth.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Sherron.

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Referred to: Commerce

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March 21, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA PARTNERSHIP FOR  
2 QUALITY GROWTH.  
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. The North Carolina Partnership for Quality Growth is established.  
6 For the purposes of this act, the term "Partnership" means the North Carolina Partnership  
7 for Quality Growth. The Partnership is deemed to be a Committee of the General  
8 Assembly pursuant to Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes; provided,  
9 however, that the provisions of this act shall supersede any section of Article 5A that is in  
10 conflict with the provisions of this act.

11 Sec. 2. (a) The Partnership shall study growth and development issues and  
12 develop appropriate initiatives to promote comprehensive and coordinated planning on  
13 the local, regional, and State levels which guide growth and land use, foster economic  
14 development, protect and preserve natural and cultural resources, promote efficient  
15 infrastructure development, transportation systems, affordable housing, and enhance the  
16 quality of life for the citizens of North Carolina. The Partnership may address all issues  
17 deemed necessary to the development and implementation of statewide quality growth,  
18 but shall study and evaluate:

19 (1) The present and anticipated consequences of population growth and  
20 patterns of development on the vitality of the State's economy,

1 environment, land uses, natural and cultural resources, infrastructure,  
2 transportation systems, and housing needs;

3 (2) Comprehensive planning goals and methods that will accommodate the  
4 State's growth and development needs and best serve all of the diverse  
5 interests and geographic regions of the State, including consideration of  
6 appropriate State, regional, and local responsibilities, and the  
7 coordination and enforcement of those responsibilities; and

8 (3) Funding requirements of comprehensive planning and alternatives for  
9 meeting those requirements, including consideration of the appropriate  
10 State, regional, and local responsibilities therefor.

11 (b) The Partnership shall make an interim report of its findings and  
12 recommendations to the 1996 Regular Session of the 1995 General Assembly. The  
13 Partnership shall make its final report, including legislative proposals to enact and  
14 implement statewide comprehensive planning for quality growth, to the 1997 General  
15 Assembly and to the Governor of North Carolina, by the first day of the 1997 Session of  
16 the General Assembly.

17 Sec. 3. (a) The Partnership shall consist of 30 members who shall represent,  
18 insofar as practicable, the diverse interests and geographic regions of the State. The  
19 membership shall include at least one representative from each of the State's 12  
20 congressional districts to be appointed as follows:

21 (1) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint eight members  
22 of the Partnership: four members of the Senate, one member who is an  
23 advocate of agriculture, one member who is an advocate of rural  
24 economic development, one member who represents the utilities  
25 industry, and one member of the public at large. Of these eight  
26 members, four shall reside respectively in the First, Fourth, Seventh,  
27 and Tenth Congressional Districts;

28 (2) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint eight  
29 members of the Partnership: four members of the House of  
30 Representatives, one member who is an advocate of environmental  
31 protection, one member who is an advocate of affordable housing, one  
32 member who represents the North Carolina Chapter of the American  
33 Planning Association, and one member of the public at large. Of these  
34 eight members, four shall reside respectively in the Second, Fifth,  
35 Eighth, and Eleventh Congressional Districts; and

36 (3) The Governor shall appoint 14 members of the Partnership: one  
37 member who represents business and industry, one member who  
38 represents the North Carolina League of Municipalities, Inc., one  
39 member who represents the North Carolina Association of County  
40 Commissioners, Inc., one member who represents the North Carolina  
41 Association of Regional Council Directors, one member who represents  
42 the transportation industry, one member who represents financial  
43 institutions, one member who represents homebuilders or real estate

1 developers and seven members of the public at large. Of these 14  
2 members, four shall reside respectively in the Third, Sixth, Ninth, and  
3 Twelfth Congressional Districts.

4 (b) Appointment of the members of the Partnership shall be completed by the  
5 appointing authorities not later than 30 days after the ratification of this act. Vacancies  
6 occurring on the Partnership shall be filled by the original appointing authority using the  
7 same criteria as provided in this section.

8 Sec. 4. The Partnership members shall receive no compensation for serving on  
9 the Partnership. All members shall receive necessary subsistence and travel expenses in  
10 accordance with the provisions of G.S. 120-3.1.

11 Sec. 5. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator  
12 as cochair of the Partnership, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
13 designate one Representative as cochair of the Partnership. The cochairs shall call the  
14 initial meeting of the Partnership not more than 30 days after the appointment of the last  
15 member of the Partnership. The Partnership shall subsequently meet upon such notice  
16 and in such manner as may be determined by the Partnership. A majority of the members  
17 of the Partnership shall constitute a quorum.

18 Sec. 6. (a) The Partnership shall establish subcommittees to study, evaluate,  
19 and address the following issues:

- 20 (1) Changing Population;
- 21 (2) Economic Development;
- 22 (3) Environmental Protection and Preservation;
- 23 (4) Infrastructure and Transportation;
- 24 (5) Housing and Quality of Life;
- 25 (6) Growth Partnerships Among State, County, Municipal, and Regional  
26 Governments and the Private Sector; and
- 27 (7) Governance and Economies of Scale in Planning Across Political  
28 Boundaries.

29 (b) The cochairs shall appoint members of the Partnership and other  
30 knowledgeable persons or experts to serve on the subcommittees. The subcommittees  
31 shall meet and conduct themselves in such manner as shall be determined by the  
32 Partnership. The Partnership may establish such other subcommittees deemed necessary  
33 to assist in the performance of its duties.

34 Sec. 7. The Partnership shall have the authority to appoint Technical Advisory  
35 Boards as appropriate to assist the Partnership in the performance of its duties. The  
36 Technical Advisory Boards shall advise on matters within their technical expertise.

37 Sec. 8. The Partnership shall establish a process of citizen participation that  
38 assures the citizens of North Carolina of the opportunity to be informed of and contribute  
39 to the work of the Partnership.

40 Sec. 9. The Partnership may enter into contracts for professional and  
41 consultant services, subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, as  
42 appropriate to assist the Partnership in the performance of its duties.

1           Sec. 10. Subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the  
2 professional and clerical staff of the Legislative Services Office shall be available to the  
3 Partnership, and the Partnership may meet in the State Legislative Building or Legislative  
4 Office Building.

5           Sec. 11. The Department of Commerce shall provide primary staff and  
6 technical assistance to the Partnership. The University of North Carolina shall provide  
7 such research and other assistance as may be requested by the Partnership. The  
8 Partnership may call upon any department, agency, institution, or officer of the State or  
9 of any political subdivision thereof for such facilities, data, and other assistance as may  
10 be available. Upon request of the Partnership, all such departments, agencies,  
11 institutions, and officers shall cooperate with the Partnership to the fullest extent possible.

12           Sec. 12. The Partnership may apply for, receive, and accept grants of non-  
13 State funds, or receive and accept contributions from any source of money, property,  
14 labor, or any other thing of value as appropriate to assist the Partnership in the  
15 performance of its duties. Any funds received shall be held in a separate account and  
16 used solely in furtherance of the Partnership's work.

17           Sec. 13. The Partnership shall terminate upon filing its final report to the  
18 General Assembly, unless extended by an act of the General Assembly.

19           Sec. 14. This act is effective upon ratification.