

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 2034

Short Title: India Center Authority. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Heagarty; and Jackson.

Referred to: Commerce, Small Business, and Entrepreneurship, if favorable, Appropriations.

May 26, 2010

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE INDIA CENTER AUTHORITY IN THE DEPARTMENT
3 OF COMMERCE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 10 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
6 adding a new Part to read:

7 "Part 22. India Center Authority.

8 **"§ 143B-472.131. India Center established.**

9 (a) There is established within the Department of Commerce the India Center
10 Authority.

11 (b) The Authority shall consist of seven members as follows:

12 (1) Three shall be appointed by the Governor.

13 (2) Two shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

14 (3) Two shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

15 (c) Vacancies in membership of the Authority shall be filled by the original appointing
16 authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

17 (d) The Governor shall appoint the chairman of the Authority. At its first meeting the
18 Authority shall select a vice-chairman from its membership and a secretary. The chairman shall
19 preside at all meetings, and in his absence the vice-chairman shall act as chairman.

20 (e) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

21 (f) The initial meeting of the Authority shall be called by the Governor. Subsequent
22 meetings shall be held upon the call of the chairman or upon the written request of two
23 members. The Authority shall meet at least four times per year.

24 (g) Authority members shall receive subsistence, travel, and per diem as provided by
25 law.

26 (h) The Department of Commerce shall provide necessary clerical equipment and
27 administrative services to the Authority, provided the Authority may hire and discharge its own
28 staff if it so desires.

29 **"§ 143B-472.132. Purpose.**

30 (a) The purpose of the Authority is to plan and advocate for creation in Wake County of
31 the India Center, a public-private entity based on the Japan Center at North Carolina State
32 University.

33 (b) The purpose of the India Center will be to strengthen the State's academic,
34 economic, scientific, and cultural ties with India and assist all citizens, universities, companies,
35 and public and private institutions in relations with the Indian government, people, and
36 business community.

37 **"§ 143B-472.133. Funding.**



1 It is intended that the India Center will be funded by the State, by the "host" for the Center,
2 such as a public or private university, and from corporate sponsors who support its mission.

3 **"§ 143B-472.134. Envisioned role for India Center.**

4 It is envisioned that the role of the India Center will include:

- 5 (1) Conducting an annual "North Carolina & India: Trade & Investment
6 Conference," for examining the current dimensions of US-India and
7 NC-India economic relations.
- 8 (2) Hosting visiting Indian business delegations interested in learning about
9 investment and development opportunities in our State.
- 10 (3) Conducting briefings on customs, business etiquette, and communications
11 issues and recommend resources for North Carolina executives entering the
12 Indian market and for Indian executives entering the North Carolina market.
- 13 (4) Giving briefings on Indian business and management practices for North
14 Carolinians employed by Indian-owned firms in the State or hosting Indian
15 visitors.
- 16 (5) Promoting mutual respect and cooperation and cultural exchange between
17 India and North Carolina and to advise on any social adjustment issues for
18 new Indian citizens in North Carolina.
- 19 (6) Providing speakers at various public venues and articles for newsletters to
20 inform North Carolinians about opportunities for business partnerships with
21 Indian enterprises and to encourage Indians to consider entering the North
22 Carolina market."

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