

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE DRS75235-MC-182 (03/13)

Short Title: Main Street Grant Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Swindell.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE MAIN STREET FINANCIAL INCENTIVE
3 FUND FOR GRANTS FOR MICROPOLITAN AREAS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
6 Commerce the sum of three million three hundred thousand dollars (\$3,300,000) in fiscal year
7 2009-2010 and the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) in fiscal year 2010-2011
8 for main street development grants to support regional development and job creation around
9 economically distressed micropolitan communities in development tier two and three counties
10 in order to better enable those communities to become economic engines spurring regional
11 growth. Of the funds provided to the Department of Commerce, the sum of three hundred
12 thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year and the sum of three hundred
13 thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year shall be used to hire and train three
14 positions in the Department of Commerce to work directly with leaders in the communities to
15 develop larger economic development plans that enable small- to medium-sized cities to
16 identify specific projects that will advance the communities' goals and promote regional
17 growth. The Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, shall
18 develop guidelines related to the administration of the appropriated funds and to the selection
19 of projects to receive allocations from the appropriated funds. The Department of Commerce
20 shall publish the proposed guidelines on the Department's Web site and provide notice to
21 persons who have requested notice of proposed guidelines. The Department shall accept oral
22 and written comments on the proposed guidelines during the 15 business days beginning on the
23 first day that the Department has completed these notifications. For purposes of this act, a
24 "micropolitan community" is a municipality with a population of 50,000 or less.

25 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

