

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

S

1

SENATE BILL 20

Short Title: Voter-Owned Election for Treasurer. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Berger of Franklin; Atwater, Kinnaird, McKissick, Nesbitt, Queen, and Snow.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

February 2, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ADD THE OFFICE OF STATE TREASURER TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE
3 OFFICES SUBJECT TO THE VOTER-OWNED ELECTIONS ACT.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 163-278.95 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 163-278.95. Purpose and establishment of Voter-Owned Elections Act.**

7 The purpose of this Article is to ensure the vitality and fairness of democratic elections in
8 North Carolina to the end that any eligible citizen of this State can realistically choose to seek
9 and run for public office. It is also the purpose of this Article to protect the constitutional rights
10 of voters and candidates from the detrimental effects of increasingly large amounts of money
11 being raised and spent in North Carolina to influence the outcome of elections. It is essential to
12 the public interest that the potential for corruption or the appearance of corruption is minimized
13 and that the equal and meaningful participation of all citizens in the democratic process is
14 ensured. Accordingly, this Article establishes the North Carolina Voter-Owned Elections Fund
15 as an alternative source of campaign financing for candidates who obtain a sufficient number of
16 qualifying contributions from registered voters and who voluntarily accept strict fund-raising
17 and spending limits. This Article is available to candidates for the Council of State offices of
18 Auditor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Treasurer, and Commissioner of Insurance in
19 elections to be held in 2008 and thereafter."

20 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-278.96(12) reads as rewritten:

21 "(12) Office. – The Council of State offices of Auditor, Superintendent of Public
22 Instruction, Treasurer, and Commissioner of Insurance."

23 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

