

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1371

Short Title: Study Corr. Officer Work Conditions/Injuries. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Pierce, Wainwright (Primary Sponsors); Faison, Glazier, T. Harrell, Harrison, Justus, Spear, Walker, and Wray.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 10, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT CREATING THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON
CORRECTIONAL OFFICER WORKING CONDITIONS AND WORKPLACE
INJURIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) There is created the Legislative Study Commission on Correctional Officer Working Conditions and Workplace Injuries (Commission). The Commission shall consist of 12 voting members appointed as follows:

- (1) Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to include:
 - a. Four members of the House of Representatives.
 - b. One person who is a retired correctional officer.
 - c. One member of the general public.
- (2) Six members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, to include:
 - a. Four members of the Senate.
 - b. One person in the field of human resources management.
 - c. One member of the general public.

SECTION 1.(b) The Commission shall:

- (1) Assess the working conditions of, and the incidence of injury among, correctional officers employed in the Department of Correction.
- (2) Review the adequacy of current remedies and resources available to correctional officers for workplace injuries.
- (3) Review any other matter concerning the working condition of State correctional officers.
- (4) Make an interim report to the General Assembly by the convening of the 2008 Regular Session.

1 (5) Make a final report to the 2009 General Assembly that includes
2 findings, recommendations, and legislative proposals relating to the
3 working conditions and workplace injuries of State correctional
4 officers.

5 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
6 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each appoint a cochair for the Commission.
7 The Commission may contract for consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.
8 Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer
9 shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission.
10 Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the offices of the House of
11 Representatives and the Senate Directors of Legislative Assistants. The Commission
12 may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the
13 approval of the Legislative Services Commission. Members of the Commission shall
14 receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances at the rate established in
15 G.S. 120-3.1. The appointing authority shall fill vacancies. The Commission, while in
16 the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all the powers provided under the
17 provisions of G.S. 120-19 through G.S. 120-19.4, including the power to request all
18 officers, agents, agencies, and departments of the State to provide any information, data,
19 or documents within their possession, ascertainable from their records, or otherwise
20 available to them and the power to subpoena witnesses.

21 **SECTION 1.(d)** The Commission shall terminate upon filing its final report.

22 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General
23 Assembly the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and
24 the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to fund the
25 work of the Legislative Study Commission on Correctional Officer Working Conditions
26 and Workplace Injuries.

27 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.