

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE BILL 1086

Short Title: Piedmont Triad Institute/Program.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gray; Bowman and Stamey.

Referred to: Education.

April 24, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 **AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE PIEDMONT TRIAD RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO**
3 **OPERATE THE PIEDMONT TRIAD GRADUATE ENGINEERING PROGRAM,**
4 **BASED AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY AND SERVING THE ENTIRE**
5 **PIEDMONT TRIAD.**

6 Whereas, the Piedmont Triad, especially the Winston-Salem area, is currently
7 experiencing a decline in its industrial base, which decline can easily be seen by the
8 departure of a major AT&T installation, employing over 3,000 people, and by the loss
9 of RJR, Nabisco; and

10 Whereas, the lack of an existing university-level engineering program was
11 listed as a major reason for Winston-Salem's inability to attract the major company,
12 U.S. Memories, even though the financial incentives were known to be some of the
13 best; and

14 Whereas, North Carolina is the ninth largest state in population and must
15 maintain and enhance its position as a significant center for high technology research,
16 development, and manufacturing; and

17 Whereas, in order to accomplish this task, the State needs to combine and
18 work with two of its most visible and important components - its medical excellence
19 and its base in information systems, the medical component being obvious by the
20 excellent reputation of its universities and hospitals, and the information systems base
21 being evidenced by the unrivaled 'CONCERT' network and by its universities, in
22 particular, the Center for Communications and Signal Processing at North Carolina
23 State University at Raleigh; and

1 (4) Funds appropriated to the Institute from the State in support of the
2 Piedmont Triad Graduate Engineering Program established by G.S.
3 116-252.

4 **"§ 116-252. Piedmont Triad Graduate Engineering Program; establishment;**
5 **purpose.**

6 There is established the Piedmont Triad Graduate Engineering Program, to be
7 housed in Winston-Salem in facilities provided by the Bowman Gray School of
8 Medicine at Wake Forest University. The program shall support faculty and graduate
9 students involved in engineering at the campuses of The University of North Carolina in
10 order to allow their participation in engineering teaching and research in the Program,
11 which shall provide much-needed university-level engineering education to the
12 Piedmont Triad area.

13 The Program shall begin to be phased in effective for the academic year 1991-92.

14 **"§ 116-253. Piedmont Triad Graduate Engineering Program; Board of Governors**
15 **of The University of North Carolina; adoption of rules.**

16 The Board of Governors, pursuant to its authority under G.S. 116-11, shall adopt
17 rules, after consultation with the board of directors of the Piedmont Triad Research
18 Institute, to implement this Article as it affects The University of North Carolina's and
19 the designated constituent institutions' ongoing roles in the Piedmont Triad Graduate
20 Engineering Program and in the education and research projects of the Institute."

21 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1991.