## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

H HOUSE BILL 975\*

Short Title: Comm.-Based Info & Tech System/3 Counties. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Crawford, Braxton, and Wray (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Appropriations.

## March 22, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR AN ADVANCED COMMUNITY-BASED INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR VANCE, WARREN, AND GREENE COUNTIES.

Whereas, Vance, Warren, and Greene Counties are working collaboratively to find solutions for student graduation rates and adequate yearly progress, poverty, unemployment, and economic instability in the counties; and

Whereas, there is a need for the education, local government, and industry leadership to come together to determine possible solutions and plan effective strategies to meet each county's specific challenges; and

Whereas, a common goal for each of the counties is to take advantage of technology to break through their rural barriers and join the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy and opportunities for their citizens; and

Whereas, their goal is to (i) connect citizens through access to the Internet, (ii) effectively plan for the maximum value of Internet access, and (iii) determine an advanced community-based ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Internet solution that provides a measurable value to the citizens and communities of these three counties; and

Whereas, each county is working individually with the State to review and assist with Internet connectivity to its communities; and

Whereas, collaboratively, the three counties want to plan and implement an advanced community-based information and technology communication system that is unique and customized to county requirements; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Commerce the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for an advanced community-based information and technology communication system for Vance, Warren, and Greene Counties. The system shall be

designed to empower citizens and communities through technology and the Internet 1 2 with the following capabilities: 3 Target specific citizen requirements – students, those changing careers, (1) 4 those on social services, retirees, and entrepreneurs. 5 Measure system utilization. (2) 6 Track and report at a citizen level by tracking (i) interaction, a. 7 utilization, (ii) system access, (iii) learning events assigned, 8 taken, completed, and (iv) job opportunities interviewed, offers, 9 acceptances. 10 Track and report at a community level or subset. b. 11 Provide an individual portal for each participant. (3) 12 (4) Use participant profile of demographics, status, and interests to 13 populate each participant's Web portal with (i) relevant news, (ii) 14 learning events, (iii) news, (iv) community announcements, and (v) 15 assessments of knowledge, skills, aptitude, and personality. Provide online mentoring, guidance, and interaction for the best 16 (5) 17 utilization of the system. 18 (6) Provide access to learning content including online courses, video, 19 audio, and created content. 20 Ability to align learning content with participant profile information. (7) 21 (8) Ability to create and meta-tag learning content for use by participants. 22 Participant virtual interaction with identified individuals with expert (9) 23 knowledge in various occupations and industries based on participant 24 interest through (i) virtual application sharing, (ii) VOIP (voice over 25 IP) capabilities; (iii) polling, and webinars (one to many or one-to-one 26 interaction). 27 Industry participation through (i) posting and tracking participant (10)28 opportunities including internships, job shadowing, part-time and 29 full-time jobs, and (ii) online virtual interviews. 30 (11)Management processes for online guidance and expert resources. 31 Security processes determining acceptability of content and guidance (12)32 and expert resources. 33 Planning and training processes and resources to ensure success. (13)

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.

Ability for each community to connect and share resources

(knowledge content, mentors, etc.) with other identified communities.

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