

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 1816

Short Title: Gender Equity Reporting.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Adams; Alexander, Blue, Boyd-McIntyre, Cunningham, Earle, Easterling, Goodwin, Hackney, Hall, Hensley, Howard, Hunter, Insko, Jarrell, Jeffus, Luebke, Nesbitt, Wainwright, and Womble.

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

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May 30, 2000

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATE GENDER EQUITY REPORTING  
2 REQUIREMENTS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR AN INTERNET  
3 ACCESSIBLE REPORTING DATABASE.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 143-157.1 reads as rewritten:

7 **"§ 143-157.1. Reports on gender-proportionate appointments to statutorily created**  
8 **decision-making regulatory bodies.**

9 (a) In appointing members to any statutorily created county board of health,  
10 district board of health, area mental health authority, board of social services, alcoholic  
11 beverage control board, or to any other decision-making or regulatory board, commission,  
12 council, or committee of the State, public office as that term is defined by G.S. 143-47.6(2),  
13 the appointing authority should select, from among the most qualified persons, those  
14 persons whose appointment would promote membership ~~on the board, commission, council,~~  
15 ~~or committee~~ that accurately reflects the proportion that each gender represents in the  
16 population of the State as a whole ~~or, in the case of a local board, commission, council, or~~  
17 ~~committee, in the population of the area represented by the board, commission, council, or~~  
18 ~~committee, as determined pursuant to the most recent federal decennial census, whole, unless~~

1 the law regulating such appointment requires otherwise. If there are multiple appointing  
2 authorities for the ~~board, commission, council, or committee,~~ commission, council  
3 committee, board, or other entity they may consult with each other to accomplish the  
4 purposes of this section.

5 ~~(b) Except as provided at the end of this section, each appointing authority~~ Each  
6 commission, council, committee, board, or other entity described in subsection (a) to  
7 which appointments are made shall submit a report to the Secretary of State annually by  
8 December 1 which discloses ~~the number of appointments made during the preceding year from~~  
9 ~~each gender~~ for each appointing authority the total membership of the commission,  
10 council, committee, board, or other entity, the total number of appointments made and the  
11 number of appointments of each gender made, expressed both in numerical terms and as  
12 a percentage of the total membership of the ~~board, commission, council, or committee.~~  
13 commission, council, committee, board, or other entity during the period commencing  
14 July 1 of the preceding year and ending June 30 of the current year. For purposes of this  
15 section, the 'total membership' of the commission, council, committee, board, or other  
16 entity shall be the total number of members authorized for that commission, council,  
17 committee, board, or other entity during the period covered by the rapport. ~~A copy of the~~  
18 ~~report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the~~  
19 ~~President Pro Tempore of the Senate.~~ In addition, each appointing authority shall designate  
20 a person responsible for retaining all applications for appointment, who shall ensure that  
21 information describing each applicant's gender and qualifications is available for public  
22 inspection during reasonable hours. Nothing in this section requires disclosure of an  
23 applicant's identity or of any other information made confidential by law. In those cases  
24 where a county or a city is the appointing authority, a copy of all the reports referred to  
25 above shall also be filed by December 1 with the clerk to the board of county  
26 commissioners or the city clerk, whichever is applicable. ~~Such reports shall be reported~~  
27 ~~annually by December 1 applicable, who shall report them annually to the governing~~  
28 ~~boards of the respective county or city and to the Secretary of State.~~ city.

29 (c) The Secretary of State may create and furnish on request forms for the reports  
30 required by subsection (b). If the Secretary of State so requires, use of these forms is  
31 mandatory. Upon receipt of the reports required by subsection (b), and within funds  
32 appropriated for that purpose, the Secretary of State shall compile them into a single  
33 report and submit a copy thereof to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of  
34 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Secretary of State  
35 shall maintain the individual reports received from each commission, council, committee,  
36 board, or other entity for public inspection and copying pursuant to the Public Records  
37 Act, Chapter 132 of the General Statutes."

38 Section 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
39 Secretary of State for the 2000-2001 fiscal year the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars  
40 (\$25,000) to develop a database of information based on G.S. 143-157.1. Such database  
41 shall be designed to be publicly accessible on the internet, and shall allow reporting  
42 agencies to electronically make the reports required by G.S. 143-157.1.

43 Section 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2000.