

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1644

Short Title: Future Uses of Dorothea Dix Hosp. Campus. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Ross, Weiss, Insko, Coleman (Primary Sponsors); Avila, Blue, Brown, Dollar, Glazier, T. Harrell, Harrison, Martin, and Stam.

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

April 19, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT REGARDING THE FUTURE USE OF THE DOROTHEA DIX HOSPITAL
2 PROPERTY CAMPUS AND SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.
3

4 Whereas, the land and improvements that comprise the Dorothea Dix
5 Hospital Property Campus (Dix Campus) have been owned by the State of North
6 Carolina for more than 150 years, and during that time, the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric
7 Hospital has provided services to the State's citizens who suffer from severe mental
8 illness; and

9 Whereas, many of the improvements located on the Dix Campus are included
10 in the National Registry of Historic Places; and

11 Whereas, the Dix Campus has unique topography in that it includes extensive
12 open space, is within one mile of the State capital, and overlooks downtown Raleigh;
13 and

14 Whereas, the State may cease to use the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Hospital
15 when the new Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital becomes operational; Now
16 therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18 **SECTION 1.** It is the intent of the General Assembly that if the State ceases
19 to use the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Hospital to provide mental health services, the land
20 and improvements that constitute the Dorothea Dix Hospital Property Campus be
21 utilized in the future as follows:

- 22 (1) That the Dorothea Dix Hospital Property Campus or significant
23 portions thereof be set aside for the creation of a potential park district;
24 (2) That the historic buildings located on the Dorothea Dix Hospital
25 Property Campus be renovated and rehabilitated in a manner that is
26 economically feasible and that supports the other objectives stated in
27 this act; and

1 (3) That the uses provided for in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section
2 generate significant revenues that shall be used to support mental
3 health services throughout the State.

4 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.