

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1644
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/22/07

Short Title: Future Uses of Dorothea Dix Hosp. Campus.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 19, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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

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 General Assembly examine the possibility of creating a park
23 district on the Dorothea Dix Campus with local governments, such
24 district to be financed with a combination of local public revenues and
25 private contributions;

26 (2) That the historic buildings located on the Dorothea Dix Hospital
27 Property Campus be renovated and rehabilitated in a manner that is
28 economically feasible and that supports the other objectives stated in
29 this act; and

1 (3) That the uses provided for in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section
2 continue to support mental health services, including the generation of
3 significant revenues for mental health services throughout the State.

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