February 11, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO ENACT THE NORTH CAROLINA INTRASTATE PRIVATE CAPITAL ACT.

Whereas, it is the policy of the State of North Carolina to provide greater economic opportunities for the citizens of the State by encouraging and promoting the expansion of existing business and creation of new business ventures; and

Whereas, the enactment of this act is necessary to provide greater opportunities for economic growth, job creation, and wage growth for the North Carolina citizen; and

Whereas, enabling qualified North Carolina companies to raise an unlimited amount of capital from North Carolina resident investors and enabling North Carolina resident accredited investors to invest an unlimited amount of capital in an unlimited number of qualified North Carolina companies serves these interests of the State by better allowing funding of new and existing business ventures; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 3 of Chapter 78A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 78A-17A. Intrastate private capital exemption.

(a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Accredited investor. – An investor meeting the standards and criteria defined in section 501 of SEC Regulation D.

(2) Disclosure brochure. – A brochure made available by the North Carolina Securities Administrator and entitled "Investing In North Carolina Private Companies" for use by investors, companies, and professional business intermediaries engaged in a North Carolina private intrastate securities offering.

(3) Non-accredited investor. – A natural person with income less than two hundred thousand dollars ($200,000) per year, or with a net liquid worth less than one million dollars ($1,000,000).

(4) Qualified North Carolina private company. – A for-profit, private company registered and domiciled in the State of North Carolina.

(5) Qualified North Carolina resident investor. – A citizen domiciled within North Carolina who files North Carolina income taxes.

(6) Qualified security. – Any note, stock, treasury stock bond, debenture, evidence of indebtedness, certificate of interest or participation in any profit-sharing agreement, preorganization certificate or subscription, transferable share, investment contract, certificate of deposit for a security,
Exemption from Registration Requirement. – The offer or sale of a security by an issuer shall be exempt from the requirements of Article 4 of this Chapter, and any seller who represents an issuer in an offer or sale shall be exempt from the requirements of Article 5 of this Chapter, if the following requirements are met:

2. A North Carolina non-accredited investor has not invested more than five thousand dollars ($5,000) in a single North Carolina "qualified" company per year.
3. No commission, fee, or other remuneration, is paid or given, directly or indirectly, for a person's participation in the offer or sale of qualified intrastate securities for the issuer, unless the person is registered under this Chapter as a broker-dealer, an investment advisor, or private equity firm.
4. All investment funds and capital received from qualified investors by a qualified company are deposited into a bank or depository institution authorized to do business in North Carolina, and all the use of funds are used in accordance with representations made to investors.
5. Fifteen days before a public general solicitation or advertising, the issuer provides a Form D notice to the North Carolina Securities Division in writing or in electronic form specifying that the issuer is conducting an offering in reliance upon this exemption and containing the following:
   a. The names and addresses of the issuer; all persons who will be involved in the offer or sale of securities on behalf of the issuer; and the bank, broker-dealer, or other depository institution in which investor funds will be deposited.
   b. The term sheet provided to investors regarding the terms and conditions of the offering.
   c. The disclosure brochure.
6. The issuer is not and does not become, as a result of the offering, an SEC registered investment company, as defined in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. § 80a-3, or a company subject to the reporting requirements of section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78m and 78o(d).
7. The issuer informs all purchasers in writing that the securities have not been registered under this Chapter and may be restricted for resale.
8. The issuer obtains from each investor a copy of the disclosure brochure that is signed and that indicates the accreditation status of the investor.
9. The issuer, prior to accepting or depositing investor funds or capital, provides to each investor a copy of the term sheet and the private placement memo related to the terms and conditions of the offering.
10. If the issuer is a private equity fund company, the following requirements are met:
   a. The private equity fund company is a state-chartered economic, business, and industrial development company that provides financial or managerial assistance to qualified business enterprises.
b. The private equity fund company engages in the transaction of business pursuant to the exemption from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940 afforded to economic, business, and industrial development companies, as provided for by section 6(a)(5) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (15 U.S.C. Sec. 80a-6(a)).

c. Securities of the private equity fund companies are sold to North Carolina resident accredited investors or to qualified institutional buyers, as defined under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933.

d. Federal- or State-registered investment advisors who provide advice and fund management for the private equity fund company (i) are licensed in the State and file Form ADV Part I and Part II with the North Carolina Securities Division and (ii) are not subject to statutory disqualifications contained under the JOBS Act of 2012.

(c) North Carolina Securities Division. – The North Carolina Securities Division of the Department of the Secretary of State is authorized to adopt rules for the carrying out and enforcement of the provisions of this section and to register and regulate intrastate regional private equity fund companies, pursuant to rules contained in Title II of the JOBS Act of 2012 and Regulation D Rule 506(c).

The North Carolina Securities Administrator shall prepare a disclosure brochure form suitable for use of the disclosure brochure in conformity with this section. The disclosure brochure shall require an investor to identify whether the investor is accredited or non-accredited.

(d) Applicability. – Nothing in this section shall be construed to interfere with the applicability to investment advisers to private equity fund companies of the general anti-fraud requirements of Rule 206(4)-8 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and to the anti-fraud provisions of this Chapter. G.S. 78A-8 and G.S. 78A-56(a)(2) apply to this section.”

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