

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1997**

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**SENATE BILL 629**

Short Title: Expedite Johnston School Construction.

(Local)

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Sponsors: Senators Wellons; Miller, and Page.

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Referred to: Commerce.

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April 1, 1997

1 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**  
2 **AN ACT TO ASSIST THE JOHNSTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH**  
3 **THE EXPEDITING OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.**

Whereas, Johnston County is faced with the critical need for school facilities created by an unusual growth in student population; and

Whereas, the Johnston County Board of Education and the Johnston County Board of Commissioners have jointly approved and funded a School Facilities 2000 building program; and

Whereas, the Johnston County Board of Education, faced with the critical need for school facilities, has implemented a model facilities plan using the Unitary System Approach (USA) to design school facilities that are educationally effective and economically efficient; and

Whereas, the Johnston County Board of Education has competitively bid the USA school design under the separate prime bid laws of North Carolina and has developed certain cost parameters based on this USA concept; and

Whereas, the Johnston County Board of Education desires to explore alternative approaches to expedite the construction of school facilities that could assist in meeting the critical need for school facilities; and

Whereas, the General Assembly reaffirms its commitment to enhance public education and to encourage innovation by public officials in meeting the critical need for school facilities; Now, therefore,

1 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

2           Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the  
3 General Statutes, the Johnston County Board of Education may select and negotiate with  
4 separate prime contractors to build the Unitary System Approach (USA) model school  
5 plan if the Johnston County Board of Education determines that using the selection and  
6 negotiations processes instead of competitive bidding will expedite the project, create an  
7 effective construction team, and control costs, quality, and schedule.

8           Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law and shall expire on June  
9 30, 2000.