GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2003

1

S SENATE BILL 819

Short Title: Use of State Prop./Blount St. Historic Dist. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Rand.

1 2

3

4 5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2223

2425

26

2728

Referred to: State Government, Local Government, and Veterans' Affairs.

April 3, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT REGARDING THE USE OF STATE-OWNED PROPERTY IN THE BLOUNT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT.

Whereas, the North Carolina Capital Planning Commission adopted a master plan for the State government complex in Raleigh; and

Whereas, recommendations in the master plan for the Blount Street Historic District include: (i) the introduction of residential land uses, (ii) infill along Blount Street with structures equal to the quality of existing structures, (iii) the systematic removal of most State offices from the existing structures, and (iv) the adaptive reuse for private residences of structures previously used for State office space; and

Whereas, implementation of the master plan will result in (i) the moving of State offices to more efficient structures, (ii) the preservation of historical structures and the historic district, and (iii) the revitalization of the area consistent with the principles of smart growth development; and

Whereas, the adaptation of property in this area to mixed residential and business use should be accomplished by the private sector and not by State government; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) Modification of the Capital Area Master Plan to provide for the sale of certain properties. – Prior to May 1, 2004, the Department of Administration and the Capital Planning Commission shall modify the Capital Area Master Plan for State Government to provide for the sale to private or public entities of State-owned properties within and adjacent to the Blount Street Historic District, an area bordered by North Person Street, Jones Street, North Wilmington Street, and Peace Street, except for the Leonidas Lafayette Polk House, on Blount Street, which shall be excluded from the sales provisions hereof. The sales shall take place at such times as the Department of Administration determines that land is no longer needed for State purposes and that it is in the best interest of the State that the land be sold.

 SECTION 1.(b) Preservation or conservation agreements required on all sales. – The sale of property in this area shall be subject to preservation or conservation agreements as defined in G.S. 121-35 that ensure that the use of the property is consistent with the historic and architectural character of the district. The Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., shall be a party to all preservation or conservation agreements entered into pursuant to this act. The Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., is authorized to enforce such agreements in accordance with G.S. 121-39.

SECTION 1.(c) Procedures for the sale of properties. – Due to (i) the significant architectural, archaeological, artistic, cultural, or historical associations of these properties, (ii) the properties' relationship to other property that is significant for architectural, archaeological, artistic, cultural, or historical associations, and (iii) the requirement that a preservation agreement or conservation agreement as defined in G.S. 121-35 is placed in the deed conveying said property from the State, these properties shall be sold by private negotiation and sale, and all such sales shall be approved by the State Property Office.

When a property available for sale is not to be sold and used as a private residence, advertisement of the availability of that property for sale shall occur at least 45 days prior to any private negotiations for the sale of that property. Also, an announcement of the terms of the proposed sale and an opportunity for public comment on the proposed sale shall occur at least 45 days prior to the sale.

When a property available for sale is to be sold and used as a private residence, advertisement of the availability of that property for sale shall occur at least 45 days prior to any private negotiations for the sale of that property. The property may then be sold without a 45-day public comment period.

The Department of Administration shall use the services of the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., to assist it in the administration of this act.

SECTION 2. Use of the net proceeds of sales. – The net proceeds of any sale made in accordance with this act shall be handled in the following priority order:

- (1) The funds shall be used in accordance with the provisions of any trust or other instrument of title under which title to the real property was acquired by the State. The term "net proceeds" means the gross amount received from the sale of any such property less any expenses incurred incident to that sale, subject to regulations adopted by the Governor and approved by the Council of State.
- (2) The next ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) of the funds shall be placed in a special trust fund in the Department of State Treasurer, hereinafter to be held in trust and used solely for the upkeep, repair, and maintenance of State-owned properties not to be sold hereunder and located within the Blount Street Historic District. The State Treasurer, as custodian of the special trust fund, shall authorize the use of interest earned by the special trust fund only for such purposes approved by the Governor and the Secretary of Cultural Resources. The State

Treasurer shall authorize the use of the principal only as authorized by the General Assembly and approved by the Governor and the Secretary of Cultural Resources.

(3) The remainder of the funds shall be deposited in the General Fund.

SECTION 3.(a) Establishment of the Blount Street Historic District Oversight Committee. – The Blount Street Historic District Oversight Committee is established in the Office of the Governor.

SECTION 3.(b) Membership of the Committee. – The Committee shall consist of six members appointed as follows:

- (1) Two members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a person with experience in urban planning;
- (2) Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a person with experience in historic preservation; and
- (3) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a resident of Historic Oakwood in Raleigh.

In making initial appointments to the Committee, the appointing officers shall designate one appointee to serve for a term of four years ending July 1, 2007, and one a term of six years ending July 1, 2009. Subsequent terms shall be for four years. A member shall continue to serve until the member's successor is appointed. A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the officer who made the original appointment.

In making all appointments, the appointing officer shall consider the unique historic and architectural nature of the area and shall appoint people who are dedicated to preserving it.

SECTION 3.(c) Purpose of the Committee. – The purpose of the Committee shall be to monitor the implementation of this act.

SECTION 4. Implementation plan for this act. – Prior to September 1, 2003, the Department of Administration shall submit to the Blount Street Historic District Oversight Committee a plan for the implementation of this act and a schedule for implementation of the plan. The plan shall provide for the sale of any property that is vacant for more than three months. The plan may also provide for the sale of property in separate parcels.

SECTION 5. G.S. 143B-79 reads as rewritten:

"§ 143B-79. Executive Mansion Fine Arts Committee – creation, powers and duties.

There is hereby created the Executive Mansion Fine Arts Committee. The Executive Mansion Fine Arts Committee shall have the following functions and duties:

- (1) To advise the Secretary of Cultural Resources on the preservation and maintenance of the Executive Mansion located at 200 North Blount Street, Raleigh, North Carolina;
- (2) To encourage gifts and objects of art, furniture and articles of historical value for furnishing the Executive Mansion, and advise the

- Secretary of Cultural Resources on major changes in the furnishings of the Mansion;
 - (3) To make recommendations to the Secretary of Cultural Resources concerning major renovations necessary to preserve and maintain the structure:
 - (4) To aid the Secretary of Cultural Resources in keeping a complete list of all gifts and articles received together with their history and value;
 - (4a) To advise the Secretary of Cultural Resources on the use of funds from the special trust fund held in trust by the State Treasurer for the upkeep, repair, and maintenance of State-owned property located within the Blount Street Historic District to the extent that such funds are to be used for the upkeep, repair, and maintenance of the Executive Mansion. These funds shall not be expended without the approval of the Committee;
 - (5) No gifts or articles shall be accepted for the Executive Mansion without the approval of the Committee;
 - (6) The Committee shall advise the Secretary of Cultural Resources upon any matter the Secretary may refer to it; and
 - (7) The Committee may dispose of property held in the Executive Mansion after consultation with a review committee comprised of one person from the Executive Mansion Fine Arts Committee, appointed by its chairman; one person from the Department of Administration appointed by the Secretary of Administration; and two qualified professionals from the Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, appointed by the Secretary of Cultural Resources. Upon request of the Executive Mansion Fine Arts Committee, the review committee will view proposed items for disposition and make a recommendation to the North Carolina Historical Commission who will make a final decision. The Historical Commission must consider whether the disposition is in the best interest of the State of North Carolina. If such property is sold, (i) if the records with regard to the property reflect that it was acquired by the State by gift or devise the net proceeds of each such sale shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Executive Mansion, Special Fund, and shall be used only for the purchase, conservation, restoration or repair of other property for use in the Executive Mansion and; (ii) if the records with regard to the property reflect that the property was acquired by the State by purchase with appropriated funds or do not show the manner of acquisition, the net proceeds of such sale shall be deposited in the General Fund."

SECTION 6. This act is effective when it becomes law.

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

2627

28 29

30

31 32

33

3435

36

37

38 39

40

41