

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE DRS85210-LY-164* (3/9)

Short Title: Defense Technology Innovation Center. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Rand.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION CENTER.

Whereas, the nation has committed enormous resources to national security and to countering terrorism evidenced by the fact that between 2001 and 2004 total federal spending on defense, homeland security, and international affairs rose more than fifty percent, in excess of five hundred forty-seven billion dollars; and

Whereas, North Carolina is home to five major military installations, including three first-strike military bases; and

Whereas, North Carolina is recognized as a global leader in technology development and home to world-class innovation and achievement, and by connecting the technology and scientific expertise with the military knowledge and relationships, North Carolina can achieve powerful opportunities for new business; and

Whereas, a comprehensive action plan, entitled the Defense Technology Innovation Center, has been drafted by the North Carolina Technology Association that aims to couple the State's innovation assets and military relationships into a sector-focused business accelerator for fueling entrepreneurs and innovators to create technologies that could be used in the global war on terror; and

Whereas, this model of business acceleration could have a powerful economic impact in North Carolina by developing technologies that can be used in the defense and intelligence communities; and

Whereas, intellectual property and technologies developed at the Defense Technology Innovation Center would be of a sensitive nature and would need to be secure; and

Whereas, certain clearances must be obtained to work in and around this type of environment; and

1 Whereas, in order for the Center to successfully implement its business plan,
2 all documentation and financial audits should be executed by a private company; Now,
3 therefore,

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North
6 Carolina Community College System the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for
7 the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars
8 (\$1,500,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to be used by Fayetteville Technical
9 Community College for the development of a Defense Technology Innovation Center, a
10 business incubator focusing on economic development opportunities in the industries
11 relating to homeland security and national defense. Funds appropriated under this act
12 shall be used in accordance with Section 2 of this act.

13 **SECTION 2.** Funds appropriated in this act shall be used for the following:

- 14 (1) Site selection and acquisition, including the purchase or lease of real
15 property to house the Center; the construction of buildings or other site
16 structures; the improvement or refurbishment of existing structures to
17 provide appropriate laboratory and administrative space; and the
18 improvement of existing infrastructure at the facility, including
19 improvements to utility, telecommunications, and Internet
20 infrastructure.
- 21 (2) Equipment acquisition, including acquisition of laboratory equipment
22 and supplies and office furniture, equipment, and supplies.
- 23 (3) Employment of staff to support the mission of the Center and to
24 oversee day-to-day operations of the Center.
- 25 (4) Implementation of a comprehensive business and marketing plan for
26 the Center.
- 27 (5) Development of a tenant screening process and the recruitment of
28 appropriate tenants for the Center.
- 29 (6) Administration and operation of the Center and the development of a
30 sustainable business plan for the Center.

31 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.