

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH50079-LG-114 (02/08)

Short Title: Wilkinson Community Center Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Williams.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE
WILKINSON CENTER IN BEAUFORT COUNTY.

Whereas, Hurricane Floyd caused significant damage to several schools in Beaufort County, including the former high school in Belhaven, which was condemned due to residual mold; and

Whereas, a group of citizens formed a nonprofit organization, the Friends of The John A. Wilkinson Building, Inc., to salvage a portion of the former Belhaven High School building; and

Whereas, for five years, this organization has raised funds to restore the building for use as a multipurpose community center, which currently houses an auditorium for cultural and community activities, classrooms for the Beaufort County Community College, and a wing used as a fitness and wellness center; and

Whereas, in order to fully restore the building, funds are needed to complete the unfinished kitchen, pave the parking lot, and purchase and install lights; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Friends of The John A. Wilkinson Building, Inc., a nonprofit organization, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for the restoration of the Wilkinson Center, which serves the citizens of the Belhaven, Greater Beaufort, and Hyde County area as a multipurpose community center. These funds shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$60,000 to stabilize the floor and supporting beams.
- (2) \$40,000 to equip the building with the necessary technical equipment and stage equipment.

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.