

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE DRH80540-MC-282 (05/12)

Short Title: Regional Partnership Econ. Dev. Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Tolson, Owens (Primary Sponsors); Crawford and E. Warren.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE STATE'S SEVEN REGIONAL ECONOMIC
3 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS TO FACILITATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

4 Whereas, North Carolina's seven regional economic development partnerships are
5 successfully pursuing their mandated goals of attracting new industries, encouraging existing
6 industries, encouraging agricultural development, effecting regional workforce solutions, and
7 encouraging new business and industrial ventures by local as well as foreign capital; and

8 Whereas, the seven regional economic development partnerships work successfully
9 with local and State economic development professionals, county and municipal government
10 leaders, universities and community colleges, and businesses by providing research assistance,
11 technical support, strategic planning, marketing and promotional support, and product
12 development guidance that facilitate the arrival and creation of businesses and industrial
13 investment; and

14 Whereas, the regional economic development partnerships foster regionalism in
15 economic development that assures that every North Carolina community, regardless of its
16 location or financial resources, has access to high-quality strategic planning, marketing, project
17 management, and technical assistance; and

18 Whereas, through its regional economic development partnerships, the State gives
19 all 100 of its counties, including its poorest and most remote counties, an opportunity to
20 succeed in the global economy; and

21 Whereas, the seven regional economic development partnerships serve as catalysts
22 to economic development in some of North Carolina's most distressed regions by helping to
23 grow existing small businesses, bringing new kinds of businesses into rural communities and
24 regions, stimulating and supporting entrepreneurship, and creating new jobs; and

25 Whereas, each of the seven regional economic development partnerships has
26 invested significant time and energy to develop cluster-based vision plans and to establish
27 strategies for implementing these plans; Now, therefore,
28 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

29 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
30 Commerce the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year to be
31 allocated to the seven Regional Economic Development Commissions for their regional
32 economic development partnerships.

33 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2010.

