

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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SENATE BILL 859

Short Title: Pilot Project: Tablets for Inmates. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators McKissick, Daniel, Hartsell (Primary Sponsors); Bryant and Sanderson.

Referred to: Judiciary II

May 11, 2016

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DIVISION OF ADULT CORRECTION TO DEVELOP AND
2 IMPLEMENT A PILOT PROJECT TO ALLOW ADULT OFFENDERS AND JUVENILES
3 WHO ARE IN GOOD STANDING TO HAVE ACCESS TO COMPUTER TABLETS FOR
4 THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION, BEHAVIORAL MODIFICATION, AND
5 REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMMING IN PREPARATION FOR REENTRY INTO
6 SOCIETY.
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8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** Pilot Project. – The Division of Adult Correction of the Department of
10 Public Safety shall establish and implement a pilot project to allow adult offenders and juveniles
11 who (i) are on good behavior and (ii) are within two years from their projected release date to have
12 access to computer tablets for the purposes of taking continuing education classes, vocational
13 classes, parenting classes, domestic violence/anger management classes, and other programs
14 approved by the Division of Adult Correction. The Division of Adult Correction will determine
15 what databases shall be accessible from the tablets. The purpose of the project is to prevent
16 recidivism by allowing adult offenders and juveniles to build educational credentials, participate in
17 prerelease planning and preparation activities, build social support in the outside community, and
18 expose the adult offenders and juveniles to updated technology prior to release.

19 **SECTION 2.** Sites. – The Division of Adult Correction shall select one or more State
20 correctional institutions, youth development centers, and residential treatment facilities to
21 implement the project.

22 **SECTION 3.** The Division of Adult Correction shall utilize available funds during the
23 2016-2017 fiscal year to conduct the pilot project required by Section 1 of this act.

24 **SECTION 4.** Report. – The Division of Adult Correction shall report on the results of
25 the pilot project to the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly, upon its reconvening.

26 **SECTION 5.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
27 Public Safety the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in nonrecurring funds to be utilized toward
28 the implementation of the pilot project.

29 **SECTION 6.** Effective Date. – This act is effective when it becomes law.

