

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE DRS55312-LB-247 (03/10)

Short Title: OpenBook Government.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Berger of Rockingham.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE OPENBOOK GOVERNMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA.  
3 Whereas, the public has the right to know how its tax dollars are being spent; and  
4 Whereas, citizens should have the ability to access information about and account  
5 for State spending; and  
6 Whereas, in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, citizens should have ready access to information about  
7 government spending via the Internet; and  
8 Whereas, Governor Beverly Perdue on January 12, 2009, promulgated Executive  
9 Order Number 4 to provide a framework for OpenBook Government; and  
10 Whereas, the General Assembly desires to codify that Executive Order; Now,  
11 therefore,

12 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

13 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
14 Article to read:

15 "Article 80.

16 "NC OpenBook.

17 "**§ 143-751. Establishment of NC OpenBook.**

18 (a) The Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM), with the support of  
19 Information Technology Services (ITS), is directed to build and maintain a Web site to be  
20 called NC OpenBook, a single, searchable Web site on State spending for grants and contracts.

21 (b) Cabinet secretaries shall immediately conduct a review of all State contracts and  
22 grants that are administered by their agencies.

23 (c) All State institutions, departments, bureaus, agencies, or commissions subject to the  
24 authority of the Governor that maintain a Web site shall include an access link to the NC  
25 OpenBook Web site on the home page of the agency Web site. Each agency shall also  
26 prominently display a search engine on the agency Web site home page to allow for ease of  
27 searching for information, including contracts and grants, on the agency's Web site.

28 "**§ 143B-752. Contents of NC OpenBook.**

29 (a) The Office of State Controller (OSC), the Department of Administration (DOA),  
30 and ITS shall provide OSBM with the statewide information on State contracts necessary for  
31 the development and maintenance of the NC OpenBook Web site. They shall further ensure  
32 that this information is updated at least every 30 days.

33 (b) OSBM shall work with the office of the State Auditor and the Grant Information  
34 Center to incorporate data on grants into the NC OpenBook Web site. All State institutions,  
35 departments, bureaus, agencies, or commissions subject to the authority of the Governor shall



1 make necessary changes to existing reporting processes to OSBM, OSC, DOA, ITS, and other  
2 agencies for grants and contracts to ensure the goals of this Order are met.

3 (c) All State contracts and grants awarded in amounts in excess of ten thousand dollars  
4 (\$10,000) shall be included in the NC OpenBook Web site, and the following information shall  
5 be provided for each:

6 (1) The name of the entity receiving the award.

7 (2) The amount of the award or estimated award.

8 (3) Information on the award, including transaction type, funding agency,  
9 duration of contract or grant award.

10 (4) The location of the entity receiving the award.

11 (5) Background information on the entity receiving the award.

12 (6) Time lines for anticipated completion of the work required.

13 (7) Expected outcomes of the contract or grant and specific deliverables  
14 required.

15 (8) Contact information for the responsible State government officer or  
16 administrator of the contract or grant.

17 **"§ 143B-753. Implementation and duration.**

18 (a) The Article will first be implemented in the Department of Administration. Other  
19 agencies will be added to the NC OpenBook thereafter. The Web site and data contained on it  
20 shall be continually updated.

21 (b) All State institutions, departments, bureaus, agencies, or commissions subject to the  
22 authority of the Governor are further directed to designate a staff person who will be the  
23 primary liaison tasked with ensuring that information on the NC OpenBook Web site is updated  
24 at least every 30 days.

25 (c) The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina System, the State  
26 Board of Community Colleges, State Board of Education, the Administrative Office of the  
27 Courts, and the heads of each of the Council of State agencies are encouraged and invited to  
28 participate in the NC OpenBook."

29 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.