

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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SENATE DRS75315-LE-272 (04/29)

Short Title: Funds for Enrollment Growth/Comm. Colleges.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Stevens, and Foriest.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO FUND ENROLLMENT GROWTH FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

3 Whereas, North Carolina community colleges have become the economic
4 emergency room for North Carolina's workforce; and

5 Whereas, thousands of laid-off workers looking for new job skills are flooding
6 through the doors of local colleges, seeking short-term training, training in critical careers such
7 as health care and technical education, or training for fast-growing industries such as life
8 sciences, aerospace, and green technology; and

9 Whereas, a record number of younger, full-time students are enrolled in community
10 colleges, attracted by the economical, quality education available as family finances tighten;
11 and

12 Whereas, community college enrollment has grown by over 31,000 students since
13 the fall 2009 semester, or roughly the size of the undergraduate and graduate student body at
14 North Carolina State University, our State's largest public university; and

15 Whereas, community colleges have grown as much in the last two years as they did
16 in the previous seven years; and

17 Whereas, securing full funding for our colleges' historic enrollment growth is
18 critical to providing educational opportunities for North Carolinians turning to our colleges for
19 help in improving their lives; Now, therefore,

20 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

21 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Community
22 Colleges System Office the sum of eighty-five million forty-one thousand six hundred thirty-
23 two dollars (\$85,041,632) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year to fully fund enrollment growth at
24 North Carolina's 58 community colleges for the 2010-2011 academic year.

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

