

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011**

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**SENATE BILL 542**

Short Title: Community Colleges/E-Procurement Exemption. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Rucho; Hartsell, Hise, and Rouzer.

Referred to: Finance.

April 12, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT EXEMPTING COMMUNITY COLLEGES FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA  
E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM AND REPEALING A SECTION OF THE  
E-PROCUREMENT STATUTE THAT HAS EXPIRED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 143-48.3 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 143-48.3. Electronic procurement.**

...

(b) The Department of Administration, in conjunction with the Office of the State Controller and the Office of Information Technology Services may, upon request, provide to all State ~~agencies, universities, and community colleges,~~agencies and universities training in the use of the electronic procurement system.

...

~~(f) Any State entity or community college operating a functional electronic procurement system established prior to September 1, 2001, may until May 1, 2003, continue to operate that system independently or may opt into the North Carolina E-Procurement Service. Each entity subject to this section shall notify the Office of Information Technology Services by January 1 of each year of its intent to participate in the North Carolina E-Procurement Service.~~

(g) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, this Article, or any rule adopted by the Secretary of Administration, community colleges are exempt from the North Carolina E-Procurement Service."

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 143-49 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 143-49. Powers and duties of Secretary.**

The Secretary of Administration shall have power and authority, and it shall be his duty, subject to the provisions of this Article:

...

(8) To establish and maintain a procurement card program for use by State ~~agencies, community colleges,~~agencies and nonexempted constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The Secretary of Administration may adopt temporary rules for the implementation and operation of the program in accordance with the payment policies of the State Controller, after consultation with the Office of Information Technology Services. These rules would include the establishment of appropriate order limits that leverage the cost savings and efficiencies of the procurement card program in conjunction with the fullest possible use of the North Carolina E-Procurement Service. Prior to implementing the program,



1 the Secretary shall consult with the State Controller, the UNC General  
2 Administration, the Community Colleges System Office, the State Auditor,  
3 the Department of Public Instruction, a representative chosen by the local  
4 school administrative units, and the Office of Information Technology  
5 Services. The Secretary may periodically adjust the order limit authorized in  
6 this section after consulting with the State Controller, the UNC General  
7 Administration, ~~the Community Colleges System Office~~, the Department of  
8 Public Instruction, and the Office of Information Technology Services.

9 ...."

10 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2011.