

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021**

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HOUSE BILL 407

Short Title: Southeastern NC Business Court ALJ. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Shepard and Cleveland (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 29, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR AN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FIELD OFFICE IN SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE SETTING OF
BUSINESS-RELATED CASES, FOR A FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
TO PRESIDE OVER THOSE CASES, AND FOR A PART-TIME PARALEGAL TO
SUPPORT THE FIELD OFFICE'S WORK.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of Administrative Hearings the sum of one hundred fifty-three thousand one hundred fifty-two dollars (\$153,152) in recurring funds for each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to be used to fund a full-time administrative law judge position.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of Administrative Hearings the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred fifty-three dollars (\$27,553) in recurring funds for each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to be used to fund a part-time paralegal position to support the administrative law judge position funded in Section 1 of this act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of Administrative Hearings the sum of thirty-eight thousand seven hundred dollars (\$38,700) in recurring funds for each year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to be used to establish and operate an Office of Administrative Hearings field office in southeastern North Carolina for the setting of business-related cases.

SECTION 4. Pursuant to the powers conferred under Article 60 of Chapter 7A of the General Statutes and using the funds appropriated in Section 1 of this act, the Chief Administrative Law Judge shall appoint a full-time administrative law judge that has the requisite experience and expertise to preside over business-related cases. The Chief Administrative Law Judge shall assign the administrative law judge appointed under this section to preside over business-related cases at the Office of Administrative Hearings field office funded under Section 3 of this act.

SECTION 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.

