

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
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SENATE DRS95230-LM-133C* (05/15)

Short Title: Union County Construction Methods. (Local)

Sponsors: Senator Tucker (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AUTHORIZING UNION COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND HUMAN SERVICES FACILITIES USING DESIGN-BUILD DELIVERY
METHODS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Union County may contract for the design and construction or design, construction, and operation of law enforcement facilities including, without limitation, a jail and emergency dispatch center and human services facilities including, without limitation, social services and public health buildings, without being subject to the requirements of Article 3D (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services) or Article 8 (Public Contracts) of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes. The authorization includes, if deemed appropriate by the Union County Board of Commissioners, the use of the single-prime contractor method of design and construction, the design-build or design-build-operate method of construction, or a request for proposals and negotiation as an alternative design and construction method.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to the authority to conduct a request for proposals and negotiation as an alternative design and construction method, Union County may enter into build-to-suit capital leases of real or personal property for use as law enforcement facilities or human services facilities. For purposes of this act, (i) the term "build-to-suit capital lease" means a capital lease, as defined by generally accepted accounting principles, regardless of how the parties describe the agreement, which provides for the construction of new facilities or the renovation of existing facilities by a private developer at a cost estimated to be greater than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000); and (ii) the term "private developer" means the entity with which the Board of Commissioners enters into a build-to-suit capital lease under the provisions of this act. A build-to-suit capital lease may provide that the private developer is responsible for providing or contracting for construction, repair, or renovation work. The lease may include contractual provisions by the private developer regarding the provision of products, services, and guaranties related to a facility that is the subject of a build-to-suit capital lease. The Board of Commissioners may also enter into a separate agreement or a series of related agreements regarding the provision of products, services, and guaranties related to a facility that is the subject of a build-to-suit capital lease. Construction, repair, or renovation work undertaken or contracted by a private developer is not subject to the requirements of Article 3D or Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

SECTION 3. In recognition of the potential economic and technical utility of build-to-suit capital leases, which may include in their scope combinations of design,



1 construction, operation, management, and maintenance responsibilities over prolonged periods
2 of time, and the potential desirability of a single point of responsibility for these matters in
3 connection with build-to-suit capital leases, any build-to-suit capital lease may include
4 provisions imposing responsibility on the private developer or any identified affiliated entity
5 for any of the following matters:

- 6 (1) Site selection, land acquisition, and site preparation, including wetlands
7 delineation, archaeological review, and State and local government land-use
8 permitting.
- 9 (2) Facility programming, planning, and design, including both architectural and
10 engineering services.
- 11 (3) Qualification and prequalification of contractors and subcontractors.
- 12 (4) Construction and construction management.
- 13 (5) Financing.
- 14 (6) Facility maintenance and repairs.
- 15 (7) Energy usage guaranties.
- 16 (8) Transfer of ownership of the leased property to Union County at the end of
17 the lease term.
- 18 (9) Any other guaranties, products, and services the Board of Commissioners
19 deem appropriate.

20 **SECTION 4.** The Board of Commissioners may enter into predevelopment
21 agreements with a private developer in advance of entering into a build-to-suit capital lease.
22 Predevelopment agreements may include, without limitation, provisions for each of the
23 following: (i) site selection, land acquisition, and site preparation, including services such as
24 wetlands delineation, archaeological review, and State and local government land-use
25 permitting; and (ii) building programming and design, including both architectural and
26 engineering services.

27 **SECTION 5.** Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, the Board of
28 Commissioners may, pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 160A-267, and without limitation as to
29 value of the interest conveyed or the consideration received, sell, lease, or otherwise transfer
30 real or personal property to any private developer for construction, repair, or renovation of the
31 facilities subject to a build-to-suit capital lease. The Board of Commissioners may subject the
32 property to any covenants, conditions, or restrictions it deems necessary to carry out the
33 purposes of this act. The facilities subject to a build-to-suit capital lease may be constructed on
34 real property owned by Union County or real property owned by the private developer.

35 **SECTION 6.** A build-to-suit capital lease shall also be subject to the following
36 requirements:

- 37 (1) The lease shall not contain a nonsubstitution clause that restricts the right of
38 the Board of Commissioners to continue to provide a service or activity or to
39 replace or provide a substitute for any property financed or purchased by the
40 capital lease.
- 41 (2) No deficiency judgment may be rendered against Union County or the Board
42 of Commissioners in any action for breach of a contractual obligation in a
43 lease authorized by this act, and the taxing power of Union County is not
44 and may not be pledged directly or indirectly to secure any moneys due
45 under a lease authorized by this act. A build-to-suit capital lease shall state
46 that it does not constitute a pledge of the taxing power or full faith and credit
47 of the Board of Commissioners.
- 48 (3) A build-to-suit capital lease entered into pursuant to this act is subject to
49 approval by the Local Government Commission under Article 8 of Chapter
50 159 of the General Statutes if it meets the standards provided in
51 G.S. 159-148(a)(2) and G.S. 159-148(a)(3). For purposes of determining

1 whether the standards provided in G.S. 159-148(a)(3) have been met, only
2 the five hundred thousand dollar (\$500,000) threshold shall apply.

- 3 (4) The Board of Commissioners, in its discretion, may require the private
4 developer to provide a performance and payment bond for construction work
5 in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Chapter 44A of the General
6 Statutes and may require the private developer to provide a bond or other
7 appropriate guaranty to cover any other guaranties, products, or services to
8 be provided by the private developer. In addition, the Board of
9 Commissioners may require that the private developer (i) provide an
10 irrevocable letter of credit for the benefit of laborers and materialmen in an
11 amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total cost of the improvements
12 that are the subject of the build-to-suit capital lease; and (ii) maintain the
13 letter of credit throughout the construction of the project and for the
14 succeeding six-month period.

15 **SECTION 7.** Union County shall request proposals from and interview at least
16 three design-build teams, design-build-operate teams, or private developers, as appropriate, that
17 have submitted proposals for a project authorized under the provisions of this act. If three
18 proposals are not received and the project has been publicly advertised for a minimum of 30
19 days, the County may proceed with the proposal or proposals received. If it determines to
20 proceed, the Board of Commissioners shall award the contract to the best qualified contractor
21 or private developer for the project as deemed by the Board of Commissioners, in its sole
22 discretion, to be in the county's best interests under all the circumstances, taking into account
23 (i) the knowledge, skill, and reputation of the contractor or private developer and its associated
24 persons; (ii) the time, cost, and quality of design, engineering, and construction, including the
25 time required to begin and the time required to complete a particular activity; (iii) occupancy
26 costs, including lease payments, life-cycle maintenance, repair, and energy costs; (iv) any other
27 factors and information set forth in the request for proposals that the county determines to have
28 a material bearing on the ability to evaluate any proposal; and (v) any other factors the Board of
29 Commissioners deems relevant.

30 **SECTION 8.** This act is effective when it becomes law.