



HOUSE BILL 616: Megasites/Selectsites Program Revisions.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 29, 2025
Introduced by:	Rep. Johnson	Prepared by:	Bill Patterson*
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 616 would:

- *Require up to five, and at least three, additional selectsites to be identified and evaluated from the initial disaster declared counties resulting from Tropical Storm Helene.*
- *Provide more flexibility in use of megasite and selectsite funds for infrastructure improvements.*
- *Require funds appropriated for the megasite and selectsite programs to be transferred in full to EDPNC when the act appropriating such funds becomes law.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

The North Carolina Megasite Fund (Fund) is administered by the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC). The Fund is used for a competitive grant program to assist local governments in acquiring megasites (parcels of contiguous property comprising more than 1,000 acres) in up to seven locations determined by EDPNC to be preferred locations for manufacturing, including, but not limited to, the aerospace, automotive, clean energy, food processing, semiconductor, and life sciences industries.

The Selectsite Readiness Program (Program) is administered by the Department of Commerce in conjunction with EDPNC. The Program's purpose is to evaluate potential areas and establish a related grant program aimed at local governments and local government partnerships for the evaluation, acquisition, and development of selectsites (parcels of contiguous property consisting of less than 1,000 acres) in up to 15 locations identified by EDPNC as preferred locations for development and marketing for manufacturing opportunities, including, but not limited to, the aerospace, automotive, clean energy, food processing, semiconductor, and life sciences industries.

Section 1 of the bill would make the following changes to the North Carolina Megasites and Selectsites :

- Increase from 15 to 20 the number of selectsites that may be identified and evaluated.
- Direct that a national site selection firm to be engaged through a competitive bid process identify and evaluate up to five, and no less than three, additional selectsites from the initial disaster declared counties resulting from Tropical Storm Helene.
- Authorize megasite and selectsite funds to be used to upgrade water, gas, and sewer systems, whether or not publicly owned, and electric infrastructure, whether or not owned by a utility.
- Provide that monies appropriated to the megasite and selectsite programs must be transferred in full to EDPNC when the act appropriating such funds becomes law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective when it becomes law.

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