



# SENATE BILL 593: Arbitration and Mediation for Business Court.

**This Bill Analysis  
reflects the  
contents of the bill  
as it was presented  
in committee.**

2017-2018 General Assembly

---

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	April 25, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Barringer, Lee, Newton	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Amy Darden Committee Counsel
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

---

**OVERVIEW:** Senate Bill 593 would direct the AOC to establish an arbitration program and give the AOC the option to establish a mediation program through the North Carolina Business Court.

**CURRENT LAW:** The Chief Justice of Supreme Court designates special superior court judges to hear and decide complex business cases in the NC Business Court. There are currently no arbitration or mediation programs in the NC Business Court.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would require the Director of the AOC, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, to establish an arbitration program within the NC Business Court specifying the following:

- How parties qualify for the program.
- The required qualifications and training for arbitrators.
- The required qualifications for those representing parties in arbitration proceedings.
- The form of appeal for nonbinding arbitration cases decided under the program.

The bill would also permit the Director of the AOC to establish a mediation program within the NC Business Court specifying the following:

- How parties qualify for the program.
- The required qualifications for mediators.
- The required qualifications for those representing parties in mediation proceedings.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law.

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578