



SENATE BILL 593: Arbitration and Mediation for Business Court.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary I	Date:	June 21, 2017
Introduced by:	Sens. Barringer, Lee, Newton	Prepared by:	Jason Moran-Bates
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 593 would direct the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to submit a report recommending whether arbitration and mediation programs should be established in 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 Business Court. There are currently no arbitration or mediation programs in the Business Court.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would require the Director of the AOC, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, to submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate a report recommending whether and how to establish an arbitration program within the Business Court. The report should include 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 make recommendations for establishing a mediation program within the Business Court. This report should include 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.

Amy Darden of the Legislative Analysis Division substantially contributed to this summary.

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