



HOUSE BILL 402: UNC Capital Projects.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 25, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Grange, Szoka, Fraley	Prepared by:	Nicholas Giddings Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Second Edition		

OVERVIEW: House Bill 402 would authorize the financing and construction of listed capital improvement projects by the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The projects will be financed through revenue bonds, special obligation bonds, and other funds available to the institutions, excluding tuition and appropriations from the General Fund.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 402 would authorize the campuses of The University of North Carolina (UNC) to finance and construct capital improvement projects. The proposed indebtedness authorized under this bill is not a debt of the State.

UNC is authorized to change, with approval of the Director of the Budget, the means of finance and increase or decrease the cost of the project. UNC is allowed to issue debt plus an additional 5% of the total cost of the project, including any increase authorized by the Director of the Budget, to cover the cost of debt issuance.

The table below lists the projects. The Fiscal Research Division has provided a more detailed description of each project in the fiscal note for this bill.

Campus	Project	Amount
University of North Carolina at Wilmington	Southeast Dining Facility	\$14,000,000
Western Carolina University	Lower Campus Residence Halls	\$60,000,000
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	New Residence Hall	\$46,000,000
	TOTAL	\$120,000,000

CURRENT LAW: Under Article 8 of the State Budget Act, no State agency may expend funds for the construction or renovation of a capital improvement project unless authorized to do so by the General Assembly. The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina may approve expenditures for projects that are to be funded entirely with non-General Fund money. However, under Article 3 of Chapter 116D, the General Assembly must approve the issuance of special obligation bonds for UNC projects.

There are two types of self-liquidating bonds that may be issued by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina:

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Division
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- Article 21 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes authorizes the Board of Governors to issue revenue bonds for educational buildings, dormitories, recreational facilities, dining facilities, student centers, health care buildings, and parking decks. The projects may be for the educational institutions, the University of North Carolina Health Care System, the University of North Carolina General Administration, and The University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill. The revenue bonds are payable from rentals, charges, fees, and other revenues generated by the facility. The bonds are not payable from tax revenues.
- Article 3 of Chapter 116D of the General Statutes authorizes the Board of Governors to issue special obligation bonds payable from any sources of income or receipts of the Board of Governors or a constituent or affiliated institution, excluding tuition payments and appropriations from the General Fund. Examples of sources of income or receipts would include rents, charges, fees, earnings on investments of endowment funds, or overhead receipts. The bond proceeds could be used for construction, improvement, and acquisition of any capital facilities located at UNC constituent and affiliated institutions. The project must be approved by both the board of trustees of the recipient institution and the General Assembly. The General Assembly must also approve the maximum aggregate principal amount for the project. The bonds are not payable from tax revenues.

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

*Staff Attorneys Trina Griffin and Kristin Harris substantially contributed to this summary.