

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

FILED SENATE
Apr 2, 2019
S.B. 472
PRINCIPAL CLERK

S

D

SENATE BILL DRS35204-MW-63

Short Title: Study/MPO Voting Power Distribution. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Marcus (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO STUDY THE DISTRIBUTION OF VOTING POWER AMONG THE VOTING
3 MEMBERS OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS AND RURAL
4 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** The Study Committee on the Distribution of Voting Power in
7 Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Rural Transportation Planning Organizations is
8 created. The Committee shall consist of five members of the House of Representatives, appointed
9 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and five members of the Senate, appointed by
10 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
11 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate one member as a cochair. Vacancies
12 to the Committee shall be filled by the same appointing authority making the initial appointment.
13 The Committee shall meet upon the call of the cochairs. A quorum shall be a majority of the
14 Committee members.

15 **SECTION 2.** The Committee shall study:

- 16 (1) The process used and guidelines followed by Metropolitan Planning
17 Organizations and Rural Transportation Planning Organizations in
18 determining how to distribute voting power among their voting members.
19 (2) Other state laws to determine if and how other states regulate the distribution
20 of voting power among the voting members of Metropolitan Planning
21 Organizations and Rural Transportation Planning Organizations.
22 (3) Methods to ensure regional governance under a weighted voting structure.
23 (4) Quorum determination by members present instead of by weighted vote.
24 (5) Methods to accomplish redesignation in which each municipality has equal
25 voting power.
26 (6) Any other topic or issue the Committee determines to be relevant to this study.

27 **SECTION 3.** The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may
28 exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.
29 The Committee may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.
30 Members of the Committee shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in
31 G.S. 120-3.1.

32 The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall
33 assign professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. The House of Representatives shall
34 assign clerical staff to the Committee, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall
35 be borne by the Committee. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant
36 services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.



1 **SECTION 4.** The Committee shall report its findings, including any proposed
2 legislation, to the 2020 Regular Session of the 2019 General Assembly. The Committee shall
3 terminate upon filing its final report or upon the convening of the 2020 Regular Session of the
4 2019 General Assembly, whichever is earlier.

5 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.