SESSION 1989

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SENATE BILL 523

Short Title: Local Pollution Tax Certification.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Kaplan (By Request).

Referred to: Finance.

March 20, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE FULLY CERTIFIED LOCAL AIR POLLUTION 3 CONTROL PROGRAMS TO CERTIFY POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT

CONTROL PROGRAMS TO CERTIFY POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT FOR TAX PURPOSES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 105-122 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 105-122. Franchise or privilege tax on domestic and foreign corporations.

Every corporation, domestic and foreign, incorporated, or, by an act, 8 (a) domesticated under the laws of this State or doing business in this State, except as 9 otherwise provided in this Article or schedule, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of the 10 third month following the end of its income year, annually, make and deliver to the 11 Secretary of Revenue in such form as he may prescribe a full, accurate and complete 12 report and statement signed by either its president, vice-president, treasurer, assistant 13 treasurer, secretary or assistant secretary, containing such facts and information as may 14 be required by the Secretary of Revenue as shown by the books and records of the 15 corporation at the close of such income year. 16

There shall be annexed to the return required by this subsection the affirmation of the officer signing the return in the following form: 'Under penalties prescribed by law, I hereby affirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief this return, including any accompanying schedules and statements, is true and complete. If prepared by a person other than taxpayer, his affirmation is based on all information of which he has any knowledge.'

23 (b) Every such corporation taxed under this section shall determine the total 24 amount of its issued and outstanding capital stock, surplus and undivided profits; no

1 reservation or allocation from surplus or undivided profits shall be allowed other than 2 for definite and accrued legal liabilities, except as herein provided; taxes accrued, 3 dividends declared and reserves for depreciation of tangible assets as permitted for income tax purposes shall be treated as deductible liabilities. There shall also be treated 4 5 as a deductible liability reserves for the entire cost of any air-cleaning device or sewage 6 or waste treatment plant, including waste lagoons, and pollution abatement equipment 7 purchased or constructed and installed which reduces the amount of air or water 8 pollution resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of sewage and industrial wastes or other polluting materials or substances into the outdoor atmosphere 9 10 or streams, lakes, or rivers, upon condition that the corporation claiming such deductible liability shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Natural 11 Resources and Community Development or from a local air pollution control program 12 for air-cleaning devices located in an area where the Environmental Management 13 14 Commission has certified a local air pollution control program pursuant to G.S. 143-15 215.112 certifying that said-the Environmental Management Commission or local air 16 pollution control program has found as a fact that the air-cleaning device, waste 17 treatment plant or pollution abatement equipment purchased or constructed and installed 18 as above described has actually been constructed and installed and that such plant or 19 equipment complies with the requirements of said-the Environmental Management 20 Commission or local air pollution control program with respect to such devices, plants 21 or equipment, that such device, plant or equipment is being effectively operated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the permit, certificate of approval, 22 23 or other document of approval issued by the Environmental Management Commission 24 or local air pollution control program and that the primary purpose thereof is to reduce 25 air or water pollution resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of sewage and waste and not merely incidental to other purposes and functions. The cost 26 27 of purchasing and installing equipment or constructing facilities for the purpose of recycling or resource recovering of or from solid waste or for the purpose of reducing 28 29 the volume of hazardous waste generated shall be treated as deductible for the purposes 30 of this section upon condition that the corporation claiming such deductible liability shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Human Resources 31 32 certifying that the Department of Human Resources has found as a fact that the equipment or facility has actually been purchased, installed or constructed, that it is in 33 conformance with all rules and regulations of the Department of Human Resources, and 34 35 the recycling or resource recovering is the primary purpose of the facility or equipment. The cost of constructing facilities of any private or public utility built for the purpose of 36 37 providing sewer service to residential and outlying areas shall be treated as deductible 38 for the purposes of this section; the deductible liability allowed by this section shall 39 apply only with respect to such pollution abatement plants or equipment constructed or installed on or after January 1, 1955. Treasury stock shall not be considered in 40 computing the capital stock, surplus and undivided profits as the basis for franchise tax, 41 42 but shall be excluded proportionately from said capital stock, surplus and undivided profits as the case may be upon the basis and to the extent of the cost thereof. In the 43 case of an international banking facility, the capital base shall be reduced by the excess 44

1 of the amount as of the end of the taxable year of all assets of an international banking

facility which are employed outside the United States over liabilities of the international
banking facility owed to foreign persons. For purposes of such reduction, foreign
persons shall have the same meaning as defined in G.S. 105-130.5(b) (13)d.

5 Every corporation doing business in this State which is a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of another corporation shall add to its capital stock, surplus and undivided 6 7 profits all indebtedness owed to or endorsed or guaranteed by a parent, subsidiary or 8 affiliated corporation as a part of its capital used in its business and as a part of the base 9 for franchise tax under this section. The term 'indebtedness' as used in this paragraph 10 shall include all loans, credits, goods, supplies or other capital of whatsoever nature furnished by a parent, subsidiary, or affiliated corporation. The terms 'parent,' 11 12 'subsidiary,' and 'affiliate' as used in this paragraph shall have the meaning specified in 13 G.S. 105-130.6. If any part of the capital of the creditor corporation is capital borrowed 14 from a source other than a parent, subsidiary or affiliate, the debtor corporation, which 15 is required under this paragraph to include in its tax base the amount of debt by reason 16 of being a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of the said creditor corporation, may deduct 17 from the debt thus included a proportionate part determined on the basis of the ratio of 18 such borrowed capital as above specified of the creditor corporation to the total assets of 19 the said creditor corporation. Further, in case the creditor corporation as above 20 specified is also taxable under the provisions of this section, such creditor corporation 21 shall be allowed to deduct from the total of its capital, surplus and undivided profits the 22 amount of any debt owed to it by a parent, subsidiary or affiliated corporation to the 23 extent that such debt has been included in the tax base of said parent, subsidiary or 24 affiliated debtor corporation reporting for taxation under the provisions of this section.

After ascertaining and determining the amount of its capital 25 (c) (1)stock, surplus and undivided profits, as provided herein, every 26 27 corporation permitted to allocate and apportion its net income for 28 income tax purposes under the provisions of Article 4 of this Chapter 29 shall apportion said capital stock, surplus and undivided profits to 30 this State through use of the fraction computed for apportionment of its business income under said Article. 31

- Provided, that although a corporation is authorized by the Tax Review Board to apportion its business income by use of an alternative formula or method, the corporation may not use such alternative formula or method for apportioning its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits unless specifically authorized to do so by order of the Tax Review Board.
- Provided, further, that a corporation which is required to pay an
 income tax to this State on its entire net income shall apportion its
 entire capital stock, surplus and undivided profits to this State.
- 41 (2) If any corporation believes that the method of allocation or
 42 apportionment hereinbefore described as administered by the Secretary
 43 of Revenue has operated or will so operate as to subject it to taxation
 44 on a greater portion of its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits

 than is reasonably attributable to business within the State, it shall be entitled to file with the Tax Review Board a petition setting forth the facts upon which its belief is based and its argument with respect to the application of the allocation formula. This petition shall be filed in such form and within such time as the Tax Review Board may prescribe. The Board shall grant a hearing thereon. At least three members of the Tax Review Board shall attend any hearing pursuant to such petition. In such cases the Tax Review Board's membership shall be augmented by the addition of the Secretary of Revenue, who shall sit as a member of said Board with full power to participate in its deliberations and decisions with respect to petitions filed under the provisions of this section. An informal record containing in substance the evidence, contentions and arguments presented at the hearing shall be made. All members of the augmented Tax Review Board shall consider such evidence, contentions and arguments, and the decision thereon shall be made by a majority vote of the augmented Board. If the Board shall find that the application of the allocation formula subjects the corporation to taxation on a greater portion of its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits than is reasonably attributable to its business within this State:

a. If the corporation shall employ in its books of account a detailed allocation of receipts and expenditures which reflects more clearly than the applicable allocation formula or alternative formulas prescribed by this section the portion of the capital stock, surplus and undivided profits attributable to the business within this State, application for permission to base the return upon the taxpayer's books of account shall be considered by the Tax Review Board. The Board shall be authorized to permit such separate accounting method in lieu of applying the applicable allocation formula if the Board deems such method proper as best reflecting the portion of the capital stock, surplus and undivided profits attributable to this State.

b. If the corporation shall show that any other method of allocation than the applicable allocation formula or alternative formulas prescribed by this section reflects more clearly the portion of the capital stock, surplus and undivided profits attributable to the business within this State, application for permission to base the return upon such other method shall be considered by the Tax Review Board. The application shall be accompanied by a statement setting forth in detail, with full explanations, the method the taxpayer believes will more nearly reflect the portion of its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits attributable to the business within this State. If the Board shall conclude that the allocation formula and the alternative

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formulas prescribed by this section allocate to this State a greater portion of the capital stock, surplus and undivided profits of the corporation than is reasonably attributable to business within this State, it shall determine the allocable portion by such other method as it shall find best calculated to assign to this State for taxation the portion reasonably attributable to its business within this State.

8 There shall be a presumption that the appropriate allocation formula reasonably 9 attributes to this State the portion of the corporation's capital stock, surplus and undivided profits reasonably attributable to its business in this State and the burden shall 10 rest upon the corporation to show the contrary. The relief herein authorized shall be 11 12 granted by the Board only in cases of clear, cogent and convincing proof that the 13 petitioning taxpaver is entitled thereto. No corporation shall use any alternative formula 14 or method other than the applicable allocation formula provided by statute in making a 15 franchise tax report or return to this State except upon order in writing of the Board and 16 any return in which any alternative formula or other method other than the applicable 17 allocation formula prescribed by statute is used without the permission of the Board, 18 shall not be a lawful return.

19 When the Board determines, pursuant to the provisions of this Article, that an 20 alternative formula or other method more accurately reflects the portion of the capital 21 stock, surplus and undivided profits allocable to North Carolina and renders its decision 22 with regard thereto, the corporation shall allocate its capital stock, surplus and 23 undivided profits for future years in accordance with such determination and decision of 24 the Board so long as the conditions constituting the basis upon which the decision was 25 made remain unchanged or until such time as the business method of operation of the corporation changes. Provided, however, that the Secretary of Revenue may, in his 26 27 discretion, with respect to any subsequent year, require the corporation to furnish information relating to its property, operations and activities. 28

29 A corporation which proposes to do business in this State may file a petition with the 30 Board setting forth the facts upon which it contends that the applicable allocation 31 formula will allocate a greater portion of the corporation's capital stock, surplus and 32 undivided profits to North Carolina than will be reasonably attributable to its proposed business within the State. Upon a proper showing in accordance with the procedure 33 34 described above for determination by the Board, the Board may authorize such corporation to allocate its capital stock, surplus and undivided profits to North Carolina 35 on the basis prescribed by the Board under the provisions of this section for such future 36 years as the conditions constituting the basis upon which the Board's decision is made 37 38 remain unchanged and the business operations of the corporation continue to conform to 39 the statement of proposed methods of business operations presented by the corporation 40 to the Board.

When the Secretary of Revenue asserts liability under the formula adjustment decision of the Tax Review Board, an aggrieved taxpayer may pay the tax under protest and bring a civil action for recovery under the provisions of G.S. 105- 241.4.

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4 5 The proportion of the total capital stock, surplus and undivided profits of each such corporation so allocated shall be deemed to be the proportion of the total capital stock, surplus and undivided profits of each such corporation used in connection with its business in this State and liable for annual franchise tax under the provisions of this section.

6 (d) After determining the proportion of its total capital stock, surplus and 7 undivided profits as set out in subsection (c) of this section, which amount so 8 determined shall in no case be less than fifty-five percent (55%) of the appraised value as determined for ad valorem taxation of all the real and tangible personal property in 9 10 this State of each such corporation plus the total appraised value of intangible property returned for taxation of intangible personal property as herein specified nor less than its 11 12 total actual investment in tangible property in this State, every corporation taxed under this section shall annually pay to the Secretary of Revenue, at the time the report and 13 14 statement are due, a franchise or privilege tax, which is hereby levied at the rate of one 15 dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the total amount of 16 capital stock, surplus and undivided profits as herein provided. The tax imposed in this 17 section shall in no case be less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and shall be for the 18 privilege of carrying on, doing business, and/or the continuance of articles of 19 incorporation or domestication of each such corporation in this State. Appraised value 20 of tangible property including real estate shall be the ad valorem valuation for the 21 calendar year next preceding the due date of the franchise tax return. Appraised value of intangible property shall be the total gross valuation required to be reported for 22 23 intangible tax purposes on April 15 coincident with or next preceding the due date of 24 the franchise tax return. The term 'total actual investment in tangible property' as used 25 in this section shall be construed to mean the total original purchase price or consideration to the reporting taxpayer of its tangible properties, including real estate, in 26 27 this State plus additions and improvements thereto less reserve for depreciation as 28 permitted for income tax purposes, and also less any indebtedness incurred and existing 29 by virtue of the purchase of any real estate and any permanent improvements made 30 thereon. In computing 'total actual investment in tangible personal property' there shall also be deducted reserves for the entire cost of any air-cleaning device or sewage or 31 32 waste treatment plant, including waste lagoons, and pollution abatement equipment purchased or constructed and installed which reduces the amount of air or water 33 34 pollution resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of sewage and 35 industrial wastes or other polluting materials or substances into the outdoor atmosphere or into streams, lakes, or rivers, upon condition that the corporation claiming such 36 deduction shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Natural 37 38 Resources and Community Development or from a local air pollution control program 39 for air-cleaning devices located in an area where the Environmental Management Commission has certified a local air pollution control program pursuant to G.S. 143-40 215.112 certifying that said Department or local air pollution control program has found 41 42 as a fact that the air-cleaning device, waste treatment plant or pollution abatement equipment purchased or constructed and installed as above described has actually been 43 44 constructed and installed and that such device, plant or equipment complies with the

requirements of said-the Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution 1 control program with respect to such devices, plants or equipment, that such device, 2 3 plant or equipment is being effectively operated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the permit, certificate of approval, or other document of approval 4 issued by the Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution control 5 6 program and that the primary purpose thereof is to reduce air or water pollution 7 resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of sewage and waste 8 and not merely incidental to other purposes and functions. The cost of constructing 9 facilities of any private or public utility built for the purpose of providing sewer service 10 to residential and outlying areas shall be treated as deductible for the purposes of this section; the deductible liability allowed by this section shall apply only with respect to 11 12 such pollution abatement plants or equipment constructed or installed on or after 13 January 1, 1955. 14 In determining the total tax payable by any corporation under this section, there shall 15 be allowed as a credit on such tax the amount of the credit authorized by Division V of 16 Article 4 of this Chapter. 17 (e) Any corporation which changes its income year, and files a 'short period' 18 income tax return pursuant to G.S. 105-130.15 shall file a franchise tax return in 19 accordance with the provisions of this section in the manner and as of the date specified in subsection (a) of this section. Such corporation shall be entitled to deduct from the 20 21 total franchise tax computed (on an annual basis) on such return the amount of franchise 22 tax previously paid which is applicable to the period subsequent to the beginning of the 23 new income year. 24 The report, statement and tax required by this section shall be in addition to (f) 25 all other reports required or taxes levied and assessed in this State. 26 (g) Counties, cities and towns shall not levy a franchise tax on corporations taxed 27 under this section." 28 Sec. 2. G.S. 105-130.10 reads as rewritten: 29 "§ 105-130.10. Amortization of air-cleaning devices, waste treatment facilities and 30 recycling facilities. 31 In lieu of any depreciation allowance, at the option of the corporation, a deduction 32 shall be allowed for the amortization, based on a period of 60 months, of the cost of: 33 Any air-cleaning device, sewage or waste treatment plant, including (1) 34 waste lagoons, and pollution abatement equipment purchased or 35 constructed and installed which reduces the amount of air or water pollution resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the 36 discharge of sewage, industrial waste, or other polluting materials or 37 38 substances into the outdoor atmosphere or streams, lakes, rivers, or 39 coastal waters. The deduction provided herein shall apply also to the facilities or equipment of private or public utilities built and installed 40 primarily for the purpose of providing sewer service to residential and 41 42 outlying areas. The deduction provided for in this subdivision shall be allowed by the Secretary of Revenue only upon the condition that the 43 44 corporation claiming such allowance shall furnish to the Secretary a

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1 certificate from the Department of Natural Resources and Community 2 Development or from a local air pollution control program for air-3 cleaning devices located in an area where the Environmental Management Commission has certified a local air pollution control 4 5 program pursuant to G.S. 143-215.112 certifying that the 6 Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution control 7 program has found as a fact that the air-cleaning device, waste 8 treatment plant or other pollution abatement equipment purchased or 9 constructed and installed as above described has actually been 10 constructed and installed and that such construction, plant or equipment complies with the requirements of said-the Environmental 11 12 Management Commission or local air pollution control program with respect to such devices, construction, plants or equipment, that such 13 14 device, plant or equipment is being effectively operated in accordance 15 with the terms and conditions set forth in the permit, certificate of 16 approval, or other document of approval issued by the Environmental 17 Management Commission or local air pollution control program, and 18 that the primary purpose thereof is to reduce air or water pollution 19 resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of 20 sewage and waste and not merely incidental to other purposes and 21 functions.

22 (2)Purchasing and installing equipment or constructing 23 facilities for the purpose of recycling or resource recovering of or 24 from solid waste, or for the purpose of reducing the volume of hazardous waste generated. The deduction provided for in this 25 subdivision shall be allowed by the Secretary of Revenue only upon 26 27 the condition that the corporation claiming such allowance shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Human 28 29 Resources certifying that the Department of Human Resources has found as a fact that the equipment or facility has actually been 30 purchased, installed or constructed, that it is in conformance with all 31 32 rules and regulations of the Department of Human Resources, and 33 that recycling or resource recovering is the primary purpose of the facility or equipment." 34

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Sec. 3. G.S. 105-147(13) reads as rewritten:

"(13) In lieu of any depreciation allowance pursuant to this section, at the
option of the taxpayer, an allowance with respect to the amortization, based on a period
of 60 months, of the cost of:

39a.Any air-cleaning device, sewage or waste treatment plant,40including waste lagoons and pollution abatement equipment41purchased or constructed and installed which reduces the42amount of air or water pollution resulting from the discharge of43sewage and industrial wastes or other polluting materials or44substances into streams, lakes, or rivers, or the emission of air

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contaminants into the outdoor atmosphere. The deduction provided herein shall apply to the facilities or equipment of private or public utilities built and installed primarily for the purpose of providing sewer service to residential and outlying areas. The deduction provided for the items enumerated in this paragraph shall be allowed by the Secretary only upon the condition that the person or firm claiming such allowance shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development or from a local air pollution control program for air-cleaning devices located in an area where the Environmental Management Commission has certified a local air pollution control program pursuant to G.S. 143-215.112 certifying that said—the Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution control program has found as a fact that the waste treatment plant, air-cleaning device, or air or water pollution abatement equipment purchased or constructed and installed as above described has actually been constructed and installed and that such plant or equipment complies with the requirements of said the Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution control program with respect to such plants or equipment, that such plant, device, or equipment is being effectively operated in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the permit, certificate of approval, or other document of approval issued by the Environmental Management Commission or local air pollution control program, and that the primary purpose thereof is to reduce air or water pollution resulting from the emission of air contaminants or the discharge of sewage and waste and not merely incidental to other purposes and functions. Purchasing and installing equipment or constructing facilities b.

b. Purchasing and installing equipment or constructing facilities for the purpose of recycling or resource recovering of or from solid waste, or for the purpose of reducing the volume of hazardous waste generated. The deduction provided for the items enumerated in this paragraph shall be allowed by the Secretary of Revenue only upon the condition that the person claiming such allowance shall furnish to the Secretary a certificate from the Department of Human Resources certifying that the Department of Human Resources has found as a fact that the equipment or facility has actually been purchased, installed or constructed, that it is in conformance with all rules and regulations of the Department of Human Resources, and that recycling or resource recovering is the primary purpose of the facility or equipment.

с.	Repealed by Session Laws 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 826, s. 8, effective June 30, 1986.
d.	Any equipment mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, including the cost of planning, acquiring, constructing, modifying, and installing said equipment.
The	term 'equipment mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Act' has the same meaning as in G.S. 105-130.10A."
Sec. 4. G.S.	105-275(8) reads as rewritten:
"(8)	a. Real and personal property that is used or, if under construction, is to be used exclusively for air cleaning or waste disposal or to abate, reduce, or prevent the pollution of air or water (including, but not limited to, waste lagoons and facilities owned by public or private utilities built and installed primarily for the purpose of providing sewer service to areas that are
	predominantly residential in character or areas that lie outside
	territory already having sewer service), if the [Department of
	Natural Resources and Community Development] Department of
	Natural Resources and Community Development or a local air
	pollution control program for air-cleaning devices located in an
	area where the Environmental Management Commission has
	certified a local air pollution control program pursuant to G.S.
	<u>143-215.112</u> furnishes a certificate to the tax supervisor of the
	county in which the property is situated or to be situated stating
	that the Environmental Management Commission or local air
	pollution control program has found that the described property:
	1. Has been or will be constructed or installed;
	2. Complies with or that plans therefor which
	have been submitted to the Environmental
	Management Commission or local air pollution control
	program indicate that it will comply with the
	requirements of the Environmental Management
	Commission or local air pollution control program;
	3. Is being effectively operated or will, when
	completed, be required to operate in accordance with
	the terms and conditions of the permit, certificate of
	approval, or other document of approval issued by the
	Environmental Management Commission or local air
	pollution control program; and
	4. Has or, when completed, will have as its primary rather
	than incidental purpose the reduction of water pollution
	resulting from the discharge of sewage and waste or the

air contaminants.

reduction of air pollution resulting from the emission of

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1 2		b. Real or personal property that is used or, if under construction, is to be used exclusively for recycling or
3		resource recovering of or from solid waste, if the Department
4		of Human Resources furnishes a certificate to the tax
5		supervisor of the county in which the property is situated
6		stating the Department of Human Resources has found that
7		the described property has been or will be constructed or
8		installed, complies or will comply with the regulations of the
9		Department of Human Resources, and has, or will have as its
10		primary purpose recycling or resource recovering of or from
11		solid waste.
12		c. Tangible personal property that is used exclusively, or if being
13		installed, is to be used exclusively, for the prevention or
14		reduction of cotton dust inside a textile plant for the protection
15		of the health of the employees of the plant, in accordance with
16		occupational safety and health standards adopted by the State
17		of North Carolina pursuant to Article 16 of G.S. Chapter 95.
18		The Department of Revenue shall adopt guidelines to assist the
19		tax supervisors in administering this exclusion."
20		Sec. 5. This act is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1,
21	1989.	