

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 1213\*

Short Title: Animal Waste Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representative J. Brown.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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May 16, 1996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT CERTAIN  
2 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLUE RIBBON STUDY COMMISSION ON  
3 AGRICULTURAL WASTE.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. (a) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Soil  
7 and Water Conservation, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, the  
8 sum of three million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$3,800,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal  
9 year for the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control to be  
10 used for the costs associated with obtaining an approved animal waste management plan.

11 (b) G.S. 143-215.74(b)(5) reads as rewritten:

12 "(5) Funding may be provided to assist practices including conservation  
13 tillage, diversions, filter strips, field borders, critical area plantings,  
14 sediment control structures, sod-based rotations, grassed waterways,  
15 strip-cropping, terraces, cropland conversion to permanent vegetation,  
16 grade control structures, water control structures, emergency spillways,  
17 riparian buffers or equivalent controls, odor control best management  
18 practices, insect control best management practices, and animal waste  
19 managements systems and application. Funding for animal waste

1                    management shall be allocated for projects in river basins such that the  
2                    funds will have the greatest impact in improving water quality."

3            (c)    ♦G.S. 143-215.74(b)(6) reads as rewritten:

4            "(6)    State funding shall be limited to seventy-five percent (75%) of the  
5            average cost for each practice with the assisted farmer providing  
6            twenty-five percent (25%) of the cost (which may include in-kind  
7            support) with a maximum of ~~fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000)~~ per year  
8            seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) total to each applicant."

9            Sec. 2.    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Soil  
10           and Water Conservation, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, the  
11           sum of one million four hundred seventeen thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,417,500)  
12           for the 1996-97 fiscal year to support the Division to provide technical assistance to  
13           operators of animal operations that are in the process of obtaining an approved animal  
14           waste management plan pursuant to the animal waste management rules.

15           Sec. 3.    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of  
16           Environmental Management, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural  
17           Resources, the sum of four hundred eighty-four thousand dollars (\$484,000) for the 1996-  
18           97 fiscal year to establish and support positions in the Division to conduct permitting,  
19           inspection, and enforcement activities for animal waste management systems.

20           Sec. 4.    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
21           Agriculture the sum of six hundred seventy-two thousand eight hundred dollars  
22           (\$672,800) for the 1996-97 fiscal year to establish and support seven positions in the  
23           Department to conduct tests of animal waste and of soils of crops onto which the waste  
24           has been applied at animal operations.

25           Sec. 5.    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
26           Environment, Health, and Natural Resources the sum of two hundred eighty-six thousand  
27           dollars (\$286,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for the Department to enter into a contract  
28           with a research institution to design and implement a scientifically valid study that uses  
29           available technology for the purpose of identifying the nonpoint sources of nitrogen in  
30           the surface waters of the State. The results of this study shall be reported to the  
31           Department and to the Environmental Review Commission no later than January 1, 1999.

32           Sec. 6. (a)    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
33           Environment, Health, and Natural Resources the sum of four hundred thousand dollars  
34           (\$400,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for the Department to enter into a contract with a  
35           research institution to design and implement a scientifically based study for the purpose  
36           of determining the extent to which lagoons pose a threat, if any, to the groundwater of  
37           this State. Lagoons that are representative of soil types and hydrologic conditions in  
38           North Carolina shall be selected for this study.

39           (b)    For purposes of this study, a lagoon is posing a threat to groundwater if nitrate  
40           levels exceed 10 parts per million in a location beyond 250 feet of the boundary of the  
41           lagoon.

42           (c)    An environmental interest group, a regulatory agency, and a commodity group  
43           representing the pork industry shall participate in this study.

1 (d) The results of this study shall be reported to the Department and to the  
2 Environmental Review Commission no later than January 1, 1999.

3 Sec. 7. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of  
4 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of five hundred thousand dollars  
5 (\$500,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for the North Carolina Agricultural Research  
6 Service at North Carolina State University to serve as a focal point for experimentation  
7 with and testing of alternative animal waste disposal technologies for use in agriculture.

8 Sec. 8. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Soil  
9 and Water Conservation, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, the  
10 sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year to enter into a  
11 contract to conduct research into economically feasible odor control technology and to  
12 provide detailed economic analysis of odor management alternatives; provided these  
13 funds are matched with an equal sum from private sources. Accurate information  
14 regarding the identity of research funding sources under this section shall be published  
15 and made available to the general public.

16 Sec. 9. This act becomes effective July 1, 1996.