GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2005

SENATE DRS75240-LDx-103 (03/16)

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(Public)

Short Title: Electronics Recycling and Job Creation.

Sponsors:	Senator Cowell.
Referred to:	

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR ELECTRONIC
3	DEVICES AND TO IMPOSE A TAX ON THOSE DEVICES IN ORDER TO
4	FUND THE PROGRAM AND TO PROVIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH
5	FUNDS TO ENABLE THEM TO RECYCLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
6	Whereas, the electronics waste stream is growing rapidly in volume and
7	complexity and can introduce toxic heavy metals into solid waste landfills; and
8	Whereas, it is in the best interests of North Carolina's citizens to have
9	convenient and free access to recycling services for their discarded electronics; and
10	Whereas, local government-operated programs are an efficient way to divert
11	electronics from disposal and to provide recycling services to citizens across the State;
12	and
13	Whereas, the development of local programs is hindered by the high costs of
14	marketing collected electronic materials; and
15	Whereas, no other system currently exists, either provided by electronics
16	manufacturers, retailers, or others, to adequately serve North Carolinians and to divert
17	large quantities of electronics from disposal; and
18	Whereas, it is already illegal for businesses to dispose of cathode ray tubes in
19	landfills in North Carolina, but small- and medium-sized businesses lack practical
20	electronics recycling options; and
21	Whereas, the recycling of electronic wastes recovers valuable materials for
22	reuse and will create jobs and expand the tax base in North Carolina; Now, therefore,
23	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
24	SECTION 1. Chapter 105 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a
25	new Article to read:
26	" <u>Article 5G.</u>
27	"Electronics Recycling Tax.

1	" <u>§ 105-187.60. Definitions.</u>
2	The definitions in G.S. 105-164.3 apply to this Article, except that the term 'sale'
3	does not include lease or rental. As used in this Article, 'electronic device' means central
4	processing units, whether sold alone or with accessories; computer monitors; laptop
5	computers; televisions with video displays having a viewable area greater than nine
6	inches when measured diagonally; and computer printers and multifunction printers.
7	" <u>§ 105-187.61. Tax imposed.</u>
8	A privilege tax is imposed on an electronic device retailer on a percentage basis of
9	the sales price of each new electronic device sold at retail by the retailer. An excise tax
10	is imposed on a new electronic device purchased outside the State for storage, use, or
11	consumption in this State. The rate of the privilege tax and the excise tax is one percent
12	(1%) of the sales price of each new electronic device. These taxes are in addition to all
13	other taxes.
14	" <u>§ 105-187.62. Administration.</u>
15	The privilege tax this Article imposes on an electronic device retailer is an additional
16	State sales tax, and the excise tax this Article imposes on the storage, use, or
17	consumption of a new electronic device in this State is an additional State use tax.
18	Except as otherwise provided in this Article, these taxes shall be collected and
19	administered in the same manner as the State sales and use taxes imposed by Article 5
20	of this Chapter. As under Article 5 of this Chapter, the additional State sales tax paid
21	when a new electronic device is sold at retail is a credit against the additional State use
22	tax imposed on the storage, use, or consumption of the same electronic device.
23	" <u>§ 105-187.63. Exemptions and refunds.</u>
24	Except for the exemption provided in G.S. 105-164.13(17), the exemptions in
25	G.S. 105-164.13 do not apply to the taxes imposed by this Article. The refunds allowed
26	in G.S. 105-164.14 do not apply to the taxes imposed by this Article.
27	" <u>§ 105-187.64. Use of tax proceeds.</u>
28	The Secretary shall distribute the taxes collected under this Article, less the
29	Department of Revenue's allowance for administrative expenses, in accordance with this
30	section. The Secretary may retain the Department's cost of collection, not to exceed two
31	hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000) a year, as reimbursement to the
32	Department. Retailers may retain up to two percent (2%) of the collected tax for
33	administrative costs related directly to the tax. Each quarter, the Secretary shall credit
34	the net tax proceeds to the Electronics Recycling Account.
35	" <u>§§ 105-187.65 through 105-187.69:</u> Reserved for future codification purposes."
36	SECTION 2. Article 9 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended
37	by adding a new Part to read:
38	"Part 2E. Electronics Recycling Act of 2005.
39	" <u>§ 130A-309.90. Title.</u>
40	This Part may be cited as the 'North Carolina Electronics Recycling Act of 2005'.
41	" <u>§ 130A-309.91. Definition.</u>
42	As used in this Part, 'electronic device' means central processing units, whether sold
43	alone or with accessories; computer monitors; laptop computers; televisions with video

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1	displays having	a viewable area greater than nine inches when measured diagonally; and
2	computer printe	ers and multifunction printers.
3	" <u>§ 130A-309.92</u>	2. Management of electronic devices; eligibility for distributions.
4	<u>(a)</u> <u>A co</u>	unty that amends its solid waste management plan adopted pursuant to
5	<u>G.S. 130A-309</u>	.09A to include a section on recycling electronic devices and that
6	implements an	electronic devices recycling program is eligible to receive distributions
7	from the Elect	ronics Recycling Account under G.S. 130A-309.94. A municipality is
8	eligible to recei	ive distributions from the Electronics Recycling Account if the county in
9	which the mun	icipality is located fails by January 1, 2008, to amend its solid waste
10	management p	lan to include a section on recycling electronic devices or fails to
11	-	electronic devices recycling program, and if the municipality amends its
12		anagement plan adopted pursuant to G.S. 130A-309.09A to include a
13	section on recy	cling electronic devices and implements an electronic devices recycling
14	<u>program.</u>	
15		unty or a municipality that receives distributions from the Electronics
16		ount shall not charge a fee for the recycling of electronic devices.
17		nit of local government may contract with another unit of local
18	-	a private entity in accordance with Article 15 of Chapter 153A of the
19		s to provide for the recycling of discarded electronic devices.
20		3. Use of distributions.
21	-	or a municipality that is eligible under G.S. 130A-309.92 to receive
22		om the Electronics Recycling Account shall use distributions exclusively
23		rectly related to electronic devices recycling and may use distributions
24		onics Recycling Account to offset any of the following:
25	(1)	Collection, storage, and transportation of discarded electronic devices.
26	<u>(2)</u>	Recycling processing fees for electronic devices.
27	<u>(3)</u>	Costs of educating citizens about its electronic devices recycling
28	(4)	program.
29	<u>(4)</u>	Costs of capital equipment and buildings used exclusively for
30		electronic devices recycling when these costs were incurred no later
31		than January 1, 2003, are documented, and were incurred to establish a
32		permanent, year-round electronic devices collection program available
33	"8 120 A 200 0	to the public.
34 25		4. Electronics Recycling Account.
35 26		Electronics Recycling Account is established within the Department. The
36 27		sts of revenue credited to the Account from the proceeds of the
37 29		<u>veling tax imposed by Article 5G of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes.</u>
38 20		ect to subsection (d) of this section, funds in the Account shall be
39 40	allocated and u	<u>Ninety percent (90%) for distribution to counties and municipalities</u>
40 41	<u>(1)</u>	that are eligible to receive distributions under G.S. 130A-309.92.
41 42	<u>(2)</u>	Six percent (6%) for supplemental grant funding to units of local
43	<u>(</u> 2)	government to help initiate local programs, enhance existing local

1	electronic devices recycling services, and encourage regionalization of
2	local electronic devices programs.
3	
	(3) Four percent (4%) to the Department for the administration of the distributions from the Electronics Recycling, the supplemental grants
4	distributions from the Electronics Recycling, the supplemental grants
5	under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the certification of electronic
6	devices recycling companies, the evaluation of reports submitted by
7	counties and municipalities under G.S. 130A-309.96(a), and the
8	writing of an annual report by the Department under G.S. 130A-309.97
9	on the management of discarded electronic devices.
10 11	(c) <u>Distributions from the Electronics Recycling Account shall be made</u>
11	quarterly. Distributions from the Electronic Recycling Account to counties and municipalities shall, subject to subsection (f) of this section, be made on the basis of the
12	per capita share of the State's population of the county or municipality receiving a
13 14	distribution.
14	(d) If distributions to counties and municipalities are unclaimed due to delays by
16	counties and municipalities in becoming eligible for distributions under
17	<u>G.S. 130A-309.92 or due to underutilization of the distributions, as determined by the</u>
18	Department, the Department may use up to seventy-five percent (75%) of these
19	<u>unclaimed distributions for supplemental grants under subdivision (2) of subsection (b)</u>
20	of this section and for providing technical assistance and education efforts to support the
20	program under this Part.
22	(e) Each county and municipality that is eligible to receive distributions from the
23	Account shall develop a method of fully accounting for its use of the distribution it
24	receives. No later than September 15 of each year, counties and municipalities that are
25	eligible to receive distributions shall submit to the Department an annual full-cost
26	accounting of their electronic devices recycling program on a form provided by the
27	Department.
28	(f) A county or municipality that uses less than ninety percent (90%) of its
29	distribution for the previous fiscal year shall receive a distribution for the next fiscal
30	year that is reduced by the amount of funds that remain available to it from the previous
31	year's distribution. A county or municipality that uses ninety percent (90%) or more of
32	its distribution for the previous fiscal year shall receive its full annual distribution the
33	next fiscal year.
34	"§ 130A-309.95. Effect of local ordinance.
35	This Part preempts any local ordinance regarding the management of discarded
36	electronic devices to the extent, and only to the extent, that the local ordinance is
37	inconsistent with this Part or the rules adopted pursuant to this Part.
38	" <u>§ 130A-309.96. Duties of Department.</u>
39	(a) Administration of Distributions from Account. – The Department shall
40	administer the distribution of funds in the Electronics Recycling Account to counties
41	and municipalities that are eligible for distributions under G.S. 130A-309.92. The
42	Department shall develop and implement a process for each county and municipality
43	that receives a distribution to report to the Department on its use of these funds during
44	the previous fiscal year so that the Department is able to determine the amount of funds

1	to distribute to the county or the municipality under G.S. 130A-309.94(f) for the next
2	fiscal year.
3	(b) Local Government Assistance. – The Department shall provide assistance to
4	units of local government developing electronic devices recycling programs. As part of
5	this assistance, the Department shall assist with the coordination of regional recovery
6	efforts for discarded electronic devices.
7	(c) <u>State Term Recycling Contract. – The Department shall assist the Department</u>
8	of Administration in establishing a State term recycling contract with electronics
9	recycling processors that may be used by units of local government.
10	(d) Supplemental Grant Program. – The Department shall develop and implement
11	a supplemental grant program, utilizing the funds allocated pursuant to
12	G.S. 130A-309.94(b)(2), to encourage and enhance the establishment of electronic
13	devices recycling programs.
14	(e) <u>Training for Local Electronic Devices Recycling Programs. – The</u>
15	Department shall develop and offer a program or shall approve for use a program
16	developed and offered by other parties to train persons to operate an effective electronic
17	devices recycling program. This training program shall address the requirements and
18	procedures for counties and municipalities to become eligible for distributions from the
19	Electronics Recycling Account.
20	" <u>§ 130A-309.97. Annual report.</u>
21	The Department shall include in the report to be delivered to the Environmental
22	Review Commission on or before 15 January of each year pursuant to
23	G.S. 130A-309.06(c) a description of the management of discarded electronic devices in
24	the State for the fiscal year ending the preceding 30 June. The description of the
25	management of electronic devices shall include all of the following information:
26	(1) <u>An evaluation of the implementation of the Electronics Recycling Act</u>
27	<u>of 2005.</u>
28	(2) The amount of taxes collected and distributed under G.S. 105-187.61
29	during the period covered by the report.
30	(3) The beginning and ending balances of the Electronics Recycling
31	Account for the period covered by the report and a list of distributions
32	made from the Account for the period.
33	(4) Any other information the Department considers helpful in
34	understanding the problem of managing electronic devices.
35	" <u>§§ 130A-309.98 through 130A-309.99</u> : Reserved for future codification purposes."
36	SECTION 3. G.S. 130A-309.06(c) is amended by adding a new subdivision:
37	"(14) <u>A description of the management of electronics in the State, as</u>
38	required by G.S. 130A-309.97."
39	SECTION 4. G.S. 130A-309.96, as enacted by Section 2 of this act, is
40	amended by adding a new subsection to read:
41	"(f) <u>Electronics Recyclers Certification. – The Department shall establish a</u>
42	program to certify electronic devices recycling companies that provide services to
43	counties and municipalities that are eligible for distributions from the Electronics
44	Recycling Account to ensure that the companies are in compliance with all applicable

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1	laws and requirements and are handling discarded electronic devices and electronic
2	materials properly to reduce adverse environmental and public health impacts."
3	SECTION 5. G.S. 130A-309.92, as enacted by Section 2 of this act, is
4	amended by adding a new subsection to read:
5	"(d) A county or a municipality that is otherwise eligible under this section to
6	receive distributions from the Electronics Recycling Account shall lose its eligibility
7	under this section unless the county or the municipality uses an electronic devices
8	recycler certified by the Department under G.S. 130A-309.96. A county or municipality
9	that loses its eligibility under this subsection may regain its eligibility after it comes into
10	compliance with this subsection."
11	SECTION 6. G.S. 130A-309.10(f) reads as rewritten:
12	"(f) No person shall knowingly dispose of <u>any of the following solid wastes in</u>
13	landfills:
14	(1) Repealed by Session Laws 1991, c. 375, s. 1.
15	(2) Used oil.
16	(3) Yard trash, except in landfills approved for the disposal of yard trash
17	under rules adopted by the Commission. Yard trash that is source
18	separated from solid waste may be accepted at a solid waste disposal
19	area where the area provides and maintains separate yard trash
20	composting facilities.
21	(4) White goods.
22	(5) Antifreeze (ethylene glycol).
23	(6) Aluminum cans.
24	(7) Whole scrap tires, as provided in G.S. 130A-309.58(b). The
25	prohibition against landfilling whole tires applies to all whole
26	pneumatic rubber coverings, but does not apply to whole solid rubber
27	coverings. (2) $L = L = \frac{1}{2} L = \frac{1}{$
28	(8) Lead-acid batteries, as provided in G.S. $130A-309.70$.
29 20	(9) Electronic devices as defined in G.S. 130A-309.91."
30	SECTION 7. G.S. 130A-309.10(f1) reads as rewritten:
31	"(f1) No person shall knowingly dispose of <u>any of the following solid wastes by</u>
32	incineration in an incinerator for which a permit is required under this Article:
33	 Antifreeze (ethylene glycol) used solely in motor vehicles. Aluminum cans.
34 35	
33 36	
30 37	 (4) White goods. (5) Lead-acid batteries, as provided in G.S. 130A-309.70.
38	(6) <u>Electronic devices as defined in G.S. 130A-309.91.</u> "
38 39	SECTION 8. Sections 1, 2, 3, and 8 of this act become effective January 1,
40	2006. Section 4 through Section 7 of this act become effective January 1, 2009. The
40 41	Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall make distributions to counties
42	and municipalities under Part 2E of Article 9 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes,
43	as enacted by Section 2 of this act, beginning on 1 July 2006.
10	as charters of section 2 of and act, cognining on 1 bary 2000.