

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

H.B. 554  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE DRH30279-LM-66 (02/26)

Short Title: Winston-Salem Franchises.

(Local)

Sponsors: Representative Hanes.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT CONCERNING UTILITY FRANCHISES IN THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM  
3 AND OTHER INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES AS TO THEIR TERRITORY  
4 WITHIN FORSYTH COUNTY.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. G.S. 160A-319 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 160A-319. Utility franchises.

8 (a) A city shall have authority to grant upon reasonable terms franchises for a telephone  
9 system and any of the enterprises listed in G.S. 160A-311, except a cable television  
10 system-systems and those enterprises listed in G.S. 160A-311(2) and (3). A franchise granted  
11 by a city authorizes the operation of the franchised activity within the city. No franchise shall  
12 be granted for a period of more than 60 years, except that a franchise for solid waste collection  
13 or disposal systems and facilities shall not be granted for a period of more than 30 years.  
14 Except as otherwise provided by law, when a city operates an enterprise, or upon granting a  
15 franchise, a city may by ordinance make it unlawful to operate an enterprise without a  
16 franchise.

17 (b) For the purposes of this section, "cable television system" means any system or  
18 facility that, by means of a master antenna and wires or cables, or by wires or cables alone,  
19 receives, amplifies, modifies, transmits, or distributes any television, radio, or electronic signal,  
20 audio or video or both, to subscribing members of the public for compensation. "Cable  
21 television system" does not include providing master antenna services only to property owned  
22 or leased by the same person, firm, or corporation, nor communication services rendered to a  
23 cable television system by a public utility that is regulated by the North Carolina Utilities  
24 Commission or the Federal Communications Commission in providing those services."

25 SECTION 2. This act applies only to the City of Winston-Salem and to the area of  
26 any other incorporated municipality as to its territory within Forsyth County.

27 SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.

