

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2013

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 505 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Extend SWCD Animal Waste Inspections.

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Waddell, Millis, Iler, and McElraft

FISCAL IMPACT					
(\$ in millions)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No Estimate Available		
	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
State Impact					
General Fund Revenues:					
General Fund Expenditures:					
Special Fund Revenues:					
Special Fund Expenditures:					
State Positions:					
NET STATE IMPACT	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Local Impact					
Revenues:					
Expenditures:					
NET LOCAL IMPACT	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Department of Environment and Natural Resources					
EFFECTIVE DATE: When bill becomes law.					
TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None					

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 505 repeals Section 15.4(a) of S.L. 1997-443 dealing with certain animal operations and amends G.S. 143-215.10F, providing an alternative inspection process administered by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The bill addresses the inspection of certain animal operations subject to permit requirements detailed in G.S. 143-215.10C. The purpose of the annual inspection is to determine if

the animal operations are violating water quality standards or whether the operations are in compliance with its respective animal waste management plan, as well as any other condition of the permit. This alternative program will be located in up to four counties meeting specified criteria detailed in Section 15.4(a) of S.L. 1997-443.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Section 1

Section 1 of the bill repeals previous legislation and related amendments addressing the animal inspection pilot program administered by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. No fiscal impact is anticipated.

Section 2

Section 2 makes permanent a pilot program where four counties are selected pursuant to criteria detailed in Section 15.4(a) of S.L. 1997-443 to receive an alternative inspection process performed by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in lieu of the inspection process performed by the Division of Water Quality within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The alternative inspection process is designed to assist animal operations implement proactive waste management techniques to mitigate environmental hazards.

The alternative inspection process has been available to selected pilot counties since 1997. Section 2 limits the number of counties eligible to participate in the alternative process at four, which mirrors the existing number of counties eligible for the program. Given the geographic proximity of the selected counties (Brunswick, Pender, Jones, Columbus), the Division of Soil and Water Conservation has previously utilized existing staff resources to administer the pilot program. Currently two staff members perform the alternative inspection process in addition to existing responsibilities. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation anticipates that these employees would continue performing inspections if the alternative inspection program became permanent. No fiscal impact is anticipated.

Section 3

Section 3 instructs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to continue to administer the alternative inspections process according to the guidelines provided in previous legislation repealed in Section 1 of the bill. No fiscal impact is anticipated.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: April 22, 2013



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