

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 1279

Short Title: Jones Beaver Management Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Jordan; and Albertson.

Referred to: Local Government and Regional Affairs.

May 23, 1996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE BEAVER DAMAGE CONTROL PROGRAM AND TO
ADD JONES COUNTY TO THAT PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Subsection (b) of Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of the 1991 Session Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws, by Section 27.3 of Chapter 769 of the 1993 Session Laws, and by Section 26.6 of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"(b) The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board shall develop a pilot program to control beaver damage on private and public lands. Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Chatham, Craven, Columbus, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Jones, Lincoln, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Vance, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson Counties shall participate in the pilot program. The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board shall act in an advisory capacity to the Wildlife Resources Commission in the implementation of the program. In developing the program, the Board shall:

- (1) Orient the program primarily toward public health and safety and toward landowner assistance, providing some relief to landowners through beaver control and management rather than eradication;

- 1 (2) Develop a priority system for responding to complaints about beaver
2 damage;
- 3 (3) Develop a system for documenting all activities associated with beaver
4 damage control, so as to facilitate evaluation of the program;
- 5 (4) Provide educational activities as a part of the program, such as printed
6 materials, on-site instructions, and local workshops;
- 7 (5) Provide for the hiring of personnel necessary to implement beaver
8 damage control activities, administer the pilot program, and set salaries
9 of personnel;
- 10 (6) Evaluate the costs and benefits of the program that might be applicable
11 elsewhere in North Carolina.

12 No later than September 30, 1994 and again upon the conclusion of the pilot program
13 on June 30, ~~1996~~, 1997, the Board shall issue a report to the Wildlife Resources
14 Commission on the program to date, including recommendations on the feasibility of
15 continuing the program in participating counties and the desirability of expanding the
16 program into other counties. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall prepare a plan to
17 implement a statewide program to control beaver damage on private and public lands.
18 No later than January 1, 1995, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall present its plan
19 in a report to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic
20 Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic
21 Resources."

22 Sec. 2. Subsection (h) of Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of the 1991 Session
23 Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws, by Section
24 27.3 of Chapter 769 of the 1993 Session Laws, and by Section 26.6 of the 1995 Session
25 Laws, reads as rewritten:

26 "(h) Subsections (a) through (d) of this section expire June 30, ~~1996~~, 1997."

27 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Wildlife Resources
28 Commission the sum of three hundred eighty-eight thousand six hundred ninety dollars
29 (\$388,690) for the 1996-97 fiscal year to provide the State share necessary to continue
30 the beaver damage control pilot program established by Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of
31 the 1991 Session Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session
32 Laws, by Section 27.3 of the 1993 Session Laws, and by Section 26.6 of the 1995 Session
33 Laws, in Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Chatham, Craven, Columbus, Duplin, Edgecombe,
34 Franklin, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Jones, Lincoln, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico,
35 Pender, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Vance, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and
36 Wilson Counties, provided the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in federal
37 funds is available in each fiscal year to provide the federal share. These funds shall be
38 matched by four thousand dollars (\$4,000) of local funds in each fiscal year from each of
39 the 28 participating counties.

40 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1996.