

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1995**

**S**

**1**

**SENATE BILL 596**

Short Title: NCSU Forestry Geneticist Funds.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senator Kerr.

---

Referred to: Appropriations

---

April 6, 1995

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A FORESTRY GENETICIST POSITION  
AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF FOREST  
RESOURCES.**

Whereas North Carolina has 2,400 Christmas tree growers with 30,000 acres currently in production, harvesting 5,500,000 trees annually, with a total value of \$165,000,000; and Whereas, the Christmas tree industry has created 2,300 full-time jobs and 16,100 seasonal jobs in rural areas where employment opportunities in other industries are limited; and

Whereas, in 1992, North Carolina Christmas tree sales represented approximately 14% of the national market, to grow to 25% if the production of high quality trees can be produced profitably; and

Whereas, the key to the production of high quality, high value Christmas trees is the use of the best genetic stock available; and

Whereas, the work to produce this stock requires the full-time, long-range work of a trained forestry geneticist; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year and the sum of two hundred thousand dollars

1 (\$200,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for the Cooperative Extension Service at North  
2 Carolina State University to establish and maintain a forestry geneticist position,  
3 technician, graduate student, and support dedicated to the development and use of the  
4 best genetic stock from the North Carolina Christmas tree industry.

5           Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.