GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2001

H HOUSE BILL 1006*

Short Title: Environmental Report Consolidation. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Gibson.

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Referred to: Environment and Natural Resources.

April 9, 2001

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO AMEND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS REPEALED.

5 **SECTION 1.1.** Subsections 27.13(b) and (c) of Chapter 18 of the Session 6 Laws of the 1996 Second Extra Session, Subsection 27.26(c) (Straight Pipe Elimination 7 Amnesty Program) of Chapter 18 of the Session Laws of the 1996 Second Extra 8 Session, Subsection 27.30(b) of Chapter 18 of the Session Laws of the 1996 Second 9 Extra Session, Section 15.2 of S.L. 1997-443, Subsection 15.14(b) of S.L. 1997-443, 10 Section 3.2 of S.L. 1997-458, Section 9.1 of S.L. 1997-483, Section 9.2 of S.L. 1997-483, Subsection 14.14(b) of S.L. 1998-212, Subsections 15.14(a) through (g) of 11 12 S.L. 1999-237, Section 11.2 of S.L. 1999-329, and G.S. 143-670 through G.S. 143-674 13 are repealed.

SECTION 1.2. Section 3 of Chapter 603 of the 1989 Session Laws, as amended by Section 222 of Chapter 727 of the 1989 Session Laws and Section 3 of Chapter 990 of the 1991 Session Laws, is repealed.

PART II. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AMENDED OR CODIFIED.

SECTION 2.1. Section 15.42 of S.L. 1999-443 reads as rewritten:

"The Oyster Rehabilitation Program in the Division of Marine Fisheries in the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall be renamed the Shellfish Rehabilitation Program. Funds appropriated for the Oyster Rehabilitation Program or the Shellfish Rehabilitation Program shall be used for the Shellfish Rehabilitation Program. The Oyster, Clam, and Scallop Subcommittee of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall advise the Division of Marine Fisheries on the expenditure of Shellfish Rehabilitation Program funds. The Division of Marine Fisheries shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture on the expenditure of Shellfish Rehabilitation Program funds annually, beginning January 1, 1998."

SECTION 2.2. G.S. 113-182.1(e) reads as rewritten:

1 The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall monitor progress 2 in the development and adoption of Fishery Management Plans in relation to the 3 Schedule for development and adoption of the plans established by the Marine Fisheries 4 Commission. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall report to the 5 Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture and the Environmental 6 Review Commission on progress in developing and implementing the Fishery 7 Management Plans on or before 1 September of each year. The Secretary of 8 Environment and Natural Resources shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on 9 Seafood and Aquaculture and the Environmental Review Commission within 30 days of 10 the completion or substantial revision of each proposed Fishery Management Plan. The 11 Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture and the Environmental 12 Review Commission shall concurrently review each proposed Fishery Management 13 Plan within 30 days of the date the proposed Plan is submitted by the Secretary. The 14 Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture and the Environmental 15 Review Commission may submit comments and recommendations on the proposed Plan 16 to the Secretary within 30 days of the date the proposed Plan is submitted by the 17 Secretary."

SECTION 2.3. G.S. 113A-241 reads as rewritten:

"§ 113A-241. State to Preserve One Million Acres; Annual Report.

- (a) The State of North Carolina shall encourage, facilitate, plan, coordinate, and support appropriate federal, State, local, and private land protection efforts so that an additional one million acres of farmland, open space, and conservation lands in the State are permanently protected by December 31, 2009. These lands shall be protected by acquisition in fee simple or by acquisition of perpetual conservation easements by public conservation organizations or by private entities that are organized to receive and administer lands for conservation purposes.
- (b) The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall lead the effort to add one million acres to the State's protected lands and shall plan and coordinate with other public and private organizations and entities that are receiving and administering lands for conservation purposes.
- (c) The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall report to the Governor and the Environmental Review Commission annually beginning on September 1, 2000, on or before 1 September of each year on the State's progress towards attaining the goal established in Section 2 of this Article."

SECTION 2.4. G.S. 130A-310.10 reads as rewritten:

- "§ 130A-310.10. Annual reports.
- (a) The Secretary shall present a report on inactive hazardous sites to the Environmental Review Commission. Commission on or before 1 October of each year. The report shall include at least:
 - (1) The Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites Priority List;
 - (2) A list of remedial action plans requiring State funding through the Inactive Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund;

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- 1 (3) A comprehensive budget to implement these remedial action plans and the adequacy of the Inactive Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund to fund the cost of said plans;
 4 (4) A prioritized list of sites that are eligible for remedial action under
 - (4) A prioritized list of sites that are eligible for remedial action under CERCLA/SARA together with recommended remedial action plans and a comprehensive budget to implement such plans. The budget for implementing a remedial action plan under CERCLA/SARA shall include a statement as to any appropriation that may be necessary to pay the State's share of such plan;
 - (5) A list of sites and remedial action plans undergoing voluntary cleanup with Departmental approval;
 - (6) A list of sites and remedial action plans that may require State funding, a comprehensive budget if implementation of these possible remedial action plans is required, and the adequacy of the Inactive Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund to fund the possible costs of said plans;
 - (7) A list of sites which that pose an imminent hazard;
 - (8) A comprehensive budget to develop and implement remedial action plans for sites that pose imminent hazards and that may require State funding, and the adequacy of the Inactive Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund; and
 - (9) Any other information requested by the General Assembly or the Environmental Review Commission.
 - (b) The report required by this section shall be made by the Secretary on or before 1 November of even numbered years."

SECTION 2.5. G.S. 143-215.3A(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) The Department shall make an annual report to the General Assembly and its Environmental Review Commission and the Fiscal Research Division on the cost of the State's environmental permitting programs contained within such the Department. Department on or before 1 November of each year. In addition, the Department shall make an annual report to the General Assembly and its Environmental Review Commission and the Fiscal Research Division on the cost of the Title V program. Program on or before 1 November of each year. The reports shall include, but are not limited to, fees set and established under this Article, fees collected under this Article, revenues received from other sources for environmental permitting and compliance programs, changes made in the fee schedule since the last report, anticipated revenues from all other sources, interest earned and any other information requested by the General Assembly."

SECTION 2.6. Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143-215.8C. Neuse River Modeling and Monitoring Project reports.

The Primary Investigator or Researcher receiving funding pursuant to Subsection 14.14(a) of Chapter 212 of the 1998 Session Laws shall provide progress reports to the Environmental Review Commission, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Scientific Advisory Council on Water Resources and

Coastal Fisheries Management, and the Fiscal Research Division on January 1 and July
1 of each year until the project or study is complete. Upon completion of the project or
study, the Primary Investigator or Researcher shall provide a final report to the entities
listed above."

SECTION 2.7. Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143-215.8D. North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup; Rivernet.

- (a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and North Carolina State University shall jointly establish the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup. The Workgroup shall work collaboratively with the appropriate divisions of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and North Carolina State University, the Scientific Advisory Council on Water Resources and Coastal Fisheries Management, the Environmental Management Commission, and the Environmental Review Commission to identify the scientific and State agency databases that can be used to formulate public policy regarding the State's water quality, evaluate those databases to determine the information gaps in those databases, and establish the priorities for obtaining the information lacking in those databases. The Workgroup shall have the following duties:
 - (1) To address specifically the ongoing need of evaluation, synthesis, and presentation of current scientific knowledge that can be used to formulate public policy on water quality issues.
 - (2) To identify knowledge gaps in the current understanding of water quality problems and fill these gaps with appropriate research projects.
 - (3) To maintain a web-based water quality data distribution site.
 - (4) To organize and evaluate existing scientific and State agency water quality databases.
 - (5) To prioritize recognized knowledge gaps in water quality issues for immediate funding.
- (b) The North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup shall be composed of no more than 15 members. Those members shall be jointly appointed by the Chancellor of North Carolina State University and the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources. Any person appointed as a member of the Workgroup shall be knowledgeable in one of the following areas:
 - (1) Water Quality Assessment, Water Quality Monitoring and Permitting.
 - (2) Nutrient Management.
 - (3) Water Pollution Control.
- 37 (4) Waste Management.
- 38 (5) Groundwater Resources.
 - (6) Stream Hydrology.
- 40 (7) Aquatic Biology.
- 41 (8) Environmental Education and Web-Based Data Dissemination.
- 42 (c) North Carolina State University shall provide meeting facilities for the North 43 Carolina Water Quality Workgroup as requested by the Chair.

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- (d) The members of the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup shall elect a Chair. The Chair shall call meetings of the Workgroup and set the meeting agenda.
- (e) The Chair of the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup shall report each year by January 30 to the Scientific Advisory Council on Water Resources and Coastal Fisheries Management, to the Environmental Review Commission, to the Cochairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and Economic Resources, and to the Chancellor of North Carolina State University or the Chancellor's designee on the previous year's activities, findings, and recommendations of the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup.
- (f) The North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup shall develop a water quality monitoring system to be known as Rivernet that effectively uses the combined resources of North Carolina State University and State agencies. The Rivernet system shall be designed to implement advances in monitoring technology and information management systems with web-based data dissemination in the waters that are impaired based on the criteria of the State's basinwide water quality management plans. Water quality and nutrient parameters shall be continuously monitored at each station, and the data shall be sent back to a centralized computer server.

The Rivernet system shall be coordinated with related data collection and monitoring activities of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Water Resources Research Institute, the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup, and other research efforts pursued by academic institutions or State government entities. If the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup chooses to employ a technology for which there are testing procedure guidelines promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, or the Water Environment Federation then the testing procedures shall comply with the appropriate guidelines. If the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup chooses to employ a technology for which there are no testing procedure guidelines promulgated by any of the groups cited in this subsection, then the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup may establish testing procedure guidelines.

The Rivernet system shall also have the capabilities to trigger alarms and notify the appropriate member of the Workgroup when monitoring stations exceed defined limits indicating a spill or a significant water quality or nutrient measurement event, which then can be comprehensively analyzed.

(g) For the 1999-2001 biennium, the North Carolina Water Quality Workgroup shall select as a pilot project site an area of impaired waters within one of the State's river basins based on criteria of the State's basinwide water quality management plans and shall implement a Rivernet monitoring system pilot project in those waters."

SECTION 2.8. Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143-215.9B. Systemwide municipal and domestic wastewater collection system permit program report.

The Environmental Management Commission shall develop and implement a permit program for municipal and domestic wastewater collection systems on a systemwide

1 basis. The collection system permit program shall provide for performance standards, 2 minimum design and construction requirements, a capital improvement plan, operation and maintenance requirements, and minimum reporting requirements. In order to 3 ensure an orderly and cost-effective phase-in of the collection system permit program, 4 5 the Commission shall implement the permit program over a five-year period beginning 1 July 2000. The Commission shall issue permits for approximately twenty percent 6 (20%) of municipal and domestic wastewater collection systems that are in operation on 7 8 1 July 2000 during each of the five calendar years beginning 1 July 2000 and shall give 9 priority to those collection systems serving the largest populations, those under a moratorium imposed by the Commission under G.S. 143-215.67, and those for which 10 11 the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has issued a notice of violation for the discharge of untreated wastewater. The Commission shall report on its progress 12 in developing and implementing the collection system permit program required by this 13 section as a part of each quarterly report the Environmental Management Commission 14 makes to the Environmental Review Commission pursuant to G.S. 143B-282(b)." 15

SECTION 2.9. G.S. 143-355 is amended by adding the following new subsection:

"(n) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall report to the Environmental Review Commission on the implementation of this section and the development of the State water supply plan on or before 1 September of each year."

SECTION 2.10. G.S. 143B-279.7(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall report annually to the Environmental Review Commission and the Senate Agriculture and Environment Committee no later than December 1 of each year. This report shall include a summary of all fish kill activity within the last year, an overview of any trend analyses, a discussion of any new or modified methodologies or reporting protocols, and any other relevant information."

PART III. SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING REPORT CONSOLIDATION.

SECTION 3.1. G.S. 130A-309.06 reads as rewritten:

"§ 130A-309.06. Additional powers and duties of the Department.

- (a) In addition to other powers and duties set forth in this Part, the Department shall:
 - (1) Develop a comprehensive solid waste management plan consistent with this Part. The plan shall be developed in consultation with units of local government and shall be updated at least every three years. In developing the State solid waste management plan, the Department shall hold public hearings around the State and shall give notice of these public hearings to all units of local government and regional planning agencies.
 - (2) Provide guidance for the orderly collection, transportation, storage, separation, processing, recovery, recycling, and disposal of solid waste throughout the State.
 - (3) Encourage coordinated local activity for solid waste management within a common geographical area.

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- 1 (4) Provide planning, technical, and financial assistance to units of local 2 government and State agencies for reduction, recycling, reuse, and 3 processing of solid waste and for safe and environmentally sound solid 4 waste management and disposal. 5 (5) Cooperate with appropriate federal agencies, local governments, and 6 private organizations in carrying out the provisions of this Part. 7 Promote and assist the development of solid waste reduction, (6) recycling, and resource recovery programs that preserve and enhance 8 9 the quality of the air, water, and other natural resources of the State. Maintain a directory of recycling and resource recovery systems in the 10 (7) State and provide assistance with matching recovered materials with 11 12 markets. 13 (8) Manage a program of grants for programs for recycling and special waste management, and for programs that provide for the safe and 14 15 proper management of solid waste. Provide for the education of the general public and the training of solid 16 (9) waste management professionals to reduce the production of solid 17 waste, to ensure proper processing and disposal of solid waste, and to 18 encourage recycling and solid waste reduction. 19 20 Develop descriptive literature to inform units of local government of (10)their solid waste management responsibilities and opportunities. 21 Repealed by Session Laws 1995 (Regular Session, 1996), c. 594, s. 10. 22 (11)23 Provide and maintain recycling bins for the collection and recycling of (12)24 newspaper, aluminum cans, glass containers, and recyclable plastic 25 beverage containers at the North Carolina Zoological Park. Identify, based on reports required under G.S. 130A-309.14 and any 26 (13)27 other relevant information, those materials in the municipal solid waste 28 stream that are marketable in the State or any portion thereof and that 29 should be recovered from the waste stream prior to treatment or 30 disposal. Identify and analyze, with assistance from the Department of 31 (14)32 Commerce pursuant to G.S. 130A-309.14, components of the State's 33 recycling industry and present and potential markets for recyclable 34 materials in this State, other states, and foreign countries.
 - (b) The Department may refuse to issue a permit to an applicant who by past conduct in this State has repeatedly violated related statutes, rules, orders, or permit terms or conditions relating to any solid waste management facility and who is deemed by the Department to be responsible for the violations. For the purpose of this subdivision, an applicant includes the owner or operator of the facility, or, if the owner or operator is a business entity, the parent of the subsidiary corporation, a partner, a corporate officer or director, or a stockholder holding more than fifty percent (50%) of the stock of the corporation.
 - (c) The Department shall prepare by 1 March of each year a report to the Environmental Review Commission on or before January 15 of each year on the status

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of solid waste management efforts in the State. The scope of the report shall be determined by the resources available to the Department for its preparation and, to the extent possible, shall include:

- (1) A comprehensive analysis, to be updated in each report, of solid waste generation and disposal in the State projected for the 20-year period beginning on 1 July 1991.
- (2) The total amounts of solid waste recycled and disposed of and the methods of solid waste recycling and disposal used during the calendar year prior to the year in which the report is published.
- (3) An evaluation of the development and implementation of local solid waste management programs and county and municipal recycling programs.
- (4) An evaluation of the success of each county or group of counties in meeting the municipal solid waste reduction goal established in G.S. 130A-309.04.
- (5) Recommendations concerning existing and potential programs for solid waste reduction and recycling that would be appropriate for units of local government and State agencies to implement to meet the requirements of this Part.
- (6) An evaluation of the recycling industry, the markets for recycled materials materials, the recycling of polystyrene, and the success of State, local, and private industry efforts to enhance the markets for these materials.
- (7) Recommendations to the Governor and the Environmental Review Commission to improve the management and recycling of solid waste in the State, including any proposed legislation to implement the recommendations.
- (8) A description of the condition of the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and the use of all funds allocated from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund, as required by G.S. 130A-309.12(c).
- (9) A description of the review and revision of bid procedures and the purchase and use of reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable, and less toxic supplies and products by both the Department of Administration and the Department of Transportation, as required by G.S. 130A-309.14(a1)(3).
- (10) A description of the implementation of the North Carolina Scrap Tire Disposal Act that includes the beginning and ending balances in the Scrap Tire Disposal Account for the reporting period, the amount credited to the Scrap Tire Disposal Account during the reporting period, and the amount of revenue used for grants and to clean up nuisance tire collection sites, as required by G.S. 130A-309.63(e).
- (11) A description of the management of white goods in the State, as required by G.S. 130A-309.85.

1 (12)A summary of the report by the Department of Transportation on the 2 amounts and types of recycled materials that were specified or used in contracts that were entered into by the Department of Transportation 3 during the previous fiscal year, as required by G.S. 136-28.8(g). 4 A summary of the reports by each State department, institution, 5 <u>(13)</u> agency, community college, and local school administrative unit 6 7 authorized to purchase materials and supplies detailing the amounts 8 and types of materials and supplies with recycled content that were purchased during the previous fiscal year and the progress toward 9 reaching the goals under G.S. 143-58.3, as required by G.S. 143-10 11 58.2(f). 12 The Department shall prepare a report assessing the recycling industry and recyclable materials markets in the State every two years, and shall submit the report to 13 the Environmental Review Commission on or before 1 March of even-numbered years. 14 15 The report shall include information on progress in recycling polystyrene in the State." **SECTION 3.2.** G.S. 130A-309.12(c) reads as rewritten: 16 17 The Department shall report annually on or before September 1 to the "(c) Environmental Review Commission as to include in the report required by G.S. 130A-18 309.06(c) a description of the condition of the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and 19 20 as to the use of all funds allocated from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund." 21 **SECTION 3.3.** G.S. 130A-309.14(a1) reads as rewritten: 22 "(a1) The Department of Administration shall review and revise its bid procedures and specifications set forth in Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes and the 23 Department of Transportation shall review and revise its bid procedures and 24 25 specifications set forth in Article 2 of Chapter 136 of the General Statutes to encourage 26 the purchase or use of reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable, and less toxic 27 supplies and products. 28 (1) The Department of Administration shall require the procurement of 29 such supplies and products to the extent that the purchase or use is practicable and cost-effective. The Department of Administration shall 30 require the purchase or use of remanufactured toner cartridges for laser 31 32 printers to the extent practicable. 33 The Department of Transportation shall require the purchase or use of (2) such supplies and products in the construction and maintenance of 34 35 highways and bridges to the extent that the purchase or use is 36 practicable and cost-effective. 37 The Department of Administration and the Department of (3) 38 Transportation shall each prepare an annual report by October 1 of each vear to the Environmental Review Commission provide by 1 39 October of each year to the Department of Environment and Natural 40 Resources a detailed description of the respective Agency's concerning 41 the review and revision of bid procedures and the purchase and use of 42

reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable, and less toxic supplies

and products. The information provided by the Department of

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Administration and the Department of Transportation to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall also be included in the report required by G.S. 130A-309.06(c)."

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SECTION 3.4. G.S. 130A-309.63(e) reads as rewritten:

"(e) Reports. – The Department shall report annually on the Scrap Tire Disposal Account to the Environmental Review Commission. The report shall be submitted by 1 October of each year for the fiscal year ending the preceding 30 June. The report shall show include in the report required by G.S. 130A-309.06(c) a description of the implementation of the North Carolina Scrap Tire Disposal Act that includes the beginning and ending balances in the Account for the reporting period, the amount credited to the Account during the reporting period, and the amount of revenue used for grants and to clean up nuisance tire collection sites."

SECTION 3.5. G.S. 130A-309.85 reads as rewritten:

"§ 130A-309.85. Department to submit annual report on the management of white goods.

The Department shall report annually to the Environmental Review Commission and to the Revenue Laws Study Committee concerning the management of white goods. The report shall be submitted by February 1 of each year for the fiscal year ending on the preceding June 30. The report shall include in the report required by G.S. 130A-309.06(c) a description of the management of white goods in the State, including the following information:

- (1) The amount of taxes collected and distributed under G.S. 105-187.24 during the period covered by the report.
- (2) The cost to each county of managing white goods during the period covered by the report.
- (3) The beginning and ending balances of the White Goods Management Account for the period covered by the report and a list of grants made from the Account for the period.
- (4) Any other information the Department considers helpful in understanding the problem of managing white goods.
- (5) A summary of the information concerning the counties' white goods management programs contained in the counties' Annual Financial Information Report."

SECTION 3.6. G.S. 136-28.8 reads as rewritten:

"(g) On or before October 1 of each year, the Department shall report to the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as to the amounts and types of recycled materials that were specified or used in contracts that were entered into during the previous fiscal year. On or before December 1 of each year, the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance shall prepare a summary of this report and submit the summary to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee, and the Environmental Review Commission. Operations and the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee.

The summary of this report shall also be included in the report required by G.S. 130A-309.06(c)."

SECTION 3.7. G.S. 143-58.2(f) reads as rewritten:

- "(f) On or before October 1 of each year, each State department, institution, agency, community college, and local school administrative unit authorized to purchase materials and supplies shall report to the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the amounts and types of materials and supplies with recycled content that were purchased during the previous fiscal year and its progress toward reaching the goals under G.S. 143-58.3. On or before December 1 of each year, the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance shall prepare a summary of these reports and submit the summary to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Environmental Review Commission. Operations. The summary of these reports shall also be included in the report required by G.S. 130A-309.06(c)."
- 15 PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 4.1. This act is effective when it becomes law.