

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE BILL 193  
State & Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 3/7/07**

Short Title: Gaston and Lincoln Boundaries.

(Local)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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February 19, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO ASSIST GASTON AND LINCOLN COUNTIES IN RESOLVING  
3 THEIR COMMON BOUNDARY BY ALLOWING THEM TO VARY FROM THE  
4 LINE ESTABLISHED BY THE 1963 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RECOGNIZE  
5 HISTORICAL PRACTICE.

6       Whereas, the General Assembly, by passage of Chapter 596 of the 1963  
7 Session Laws, established the official county line of Gaston County; and

8       Whereas, that act provided for the map to be recorded in Gaston County and  
9 the contiguous counties, and constituted the official county line; and

10       Whereas, the map was never recorded or implemented, but was recently  
11 discovered as Gaston and Lincoln Counties worked to establish their common  
12 boundaries, which were recognized by more modern mapping and surveying to be  
13 inaccurate; and

14       Whereas, historical patterns of recognition of the county line have grown up,  
15 recognized by tax offices, school systems, and boards of elections; and

16       Whereas, the two counties feel hamstrung by the 1963 local act and by the  
17 current procedures in G.S. 153A-18 for settling boundary disputes; Now, therefore,  
18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19       **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Chapter 596 of the 1963 Session Laws reads as  
20 rewritten:

21       "Section 1. (a) The official county lines of Gaston County, and the official township  
22 lines of the various townships in said county shall be as indicated on that certain map  
23 entitled "Gaston County, N. C., map of county and township lines, dated April, 1963,  
24 surveyed by Findlay, Witheres, McConnoughey, Inc., Registered Surveyors.

25       (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the Counties of Gaston and  
26 Lincoln shall establish in accordance with G.S. 153A-18 the line between those two  
27 counties as provided on that map, but respecting to the extent practicable the line as it  
28 has been observed in practice, provided that the line does not make any territory in one  
29 county noncontiguous to the remainder of the county. In any case where the tax

1 treatment of a parcel has in practice been divided in some proportion between the two  
2 counties without drawing of an actual line, the two counties may divide the properties  
3 proportionally between the two counties. Until the line has been established in  
4 accordance with this subsection, the line shall continue to be administered as it has been  
5 in practice, rather than as provided by subsection (a) of this section. This subsection  
6 does not have any effect on the action of the Board of Commissioners of Gaston County  
7 in 1979 to alter the boundary between Gastonia and Southpoint Townships."

8 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.