

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
 OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR
 Date: June 30, 2011
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 Sarah Clapp

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
 GOVERNOR

June 30, 2011

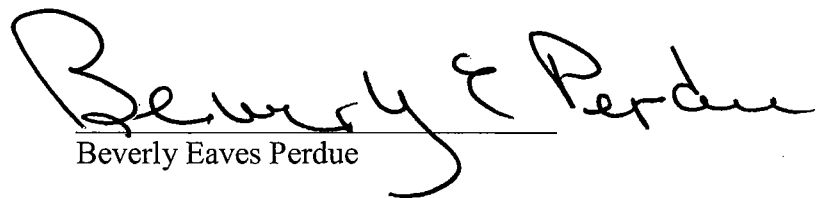
GOVERNOR'S OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE

Senate Bill 709, *"An Act to Increase Energy Production in North Carolina to Develop a Secure, Stable, and Predictable Energy Supply to Facilitate Economic Growth, Job Creation, and Expansion of Business and Industry Opportunities and to Assign Future Revenue From Energy Exploration, Development, and Production of Energy Resources in Order to Protect and Preserve the State's Natural Resources, Cultural Heritage, and Quality of Life."*

Senate Bill 709 is unconstitutional on its face. By directing the Governor of this State to enter into a compact with the Governors of South Carolina and Virginia, the General Assembly is intruding on the constitutional power of the Executive Branch and is, therefore, violating separation of powers principles that are enshrined in our Constitution. Furthermore, and even more basically, the General Assembly lacks the authority to instruct the Governors of other states to do anything at all. That's why I am vetoing this bill.

Before any oil and gas production can commence, the federal government must take action. North Carolina is nevertheless proactively planning and preparing to take full advantage of any eventual federal authorization. I strongly believe that our state can put people to work producing homegrown energy to power our lights and fuel our cars. But, we must do so through a comprehensive mix of energy sources that includes renewable energy. To that end, I'm issuing Executive Orders No. 96 and 97. The first will reestablish and expand the Scientific Advisory Panel on Energy that will continue to research, plan and provide options for onshore and offshore oil and gas production. The second will create the Offshore Wind Economic Development Task Force that will make recommendations on state investments and infrastructure needed to take full economic advantage of offshore wind resources in North Carolina.

Therefore, I veto the bill.


 Beverly Eaves Perdue

This bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this 30th day of June, 2011, at 4:05pm for reconsideration by that body.

