

**§ 113A-22. Purpose.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina recognizes and declares:

- (1) The concern for the purity and life-giving qualities of our environment is of primary interest to every citizen of North Carolina and to all Americans.
- (2) The quality of our environment depends upon the management of the air, water, and land resources upon which our lives depend.
- (3) The ultimate responsibility for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of North Carolina rests upon the State government.
- (4) The environment of every state is affected with local, state, regional, and national interests since ecological systems cross state boundaries.
- (5) The discharge of this responsibility of environmental protection can be enhanced by acting in concert and cooperation with other states and with the federal government. (1971, c. 805, s. 2.)