

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE BILL 1414

Short Title: Imperial Foods Demolition Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Goodwin.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 26, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE COUNTY OF RICHMOND FOR
3 THE PURCHASE AND DEMOLITION OF THE IMPERIAL FOODS PLANT IN
4 HAMLET, NORTH CAROLINA.

5 Whereas, on September 3, 1991, a grease fire swept quickly through the
6 Imperial Food Products, Inc., plant in Hamlet, North Carolina, resulting in 26 deaths
7 and injuries to 56 others, the worst industrial disaster in North Carolina history; and

8 Whereas, on or about July 27, 2000, the State Health Director of North
9 Carolina, Dr. Dennis McBride, issued an Order declaring the site of the Imperial Foods
10 plant fire to be a public health nuisance and ordered, pursuant to G.S. 130A-19, that
11 Imperial Foods Products, Inc., demolish the plant at that site to remove and dispose of
12 the demolition debris; and

13 Whereas, the time for Imperial Food Products, Inc., to comply with that Order
14 has expired and the plant at the site in Hamlet, North Carolina, has not been demolished
15 or the demolition debris removed; and

16 Whereas, the present assessed valuation for the plant is \$87,222 and the
17 assessed valuation for the property surrounding the plant is \$12,685 according to the
18 Richmond County tax administrator; Now, therefore,
19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the County of
21 Richmond the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the 2001-2002 fiscal
22 year to enable the County of Richmond to purchase the burned out Imperial Food
23 Products, Inc., plant and surrounding property, in Hamlet, North Carolina, so that the
24 plant can be demolished and the debris removed thereby eliminating the public health
25 nuisance declared by the State Health Director on July 27, 2000.

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.