

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

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**HOUSE BILL 1579  
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/19/02**

Short Title: No Airboats on Lake Tillery.

(Local)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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June 6, 2002

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE OPERATION OF AIRBOATS ON LAKE TILLERY,  
2 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION.  
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of area  
6 residents, and to protect and preserve the animals, fowl, plant life, natural habitats,  
7 wetlands, and local environment, the General Assembly finds that it is necessary to  
8 prohibit airboats on Lake Tillery.

9 **SECTION 2.** It is unlawful to operate an airboat on the waters of Lake  
10 Tillery in Montgomery and Stanly Counties.

11 **SECTION 3.** Violation of this act is punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor.

12 **SECTION 4.** For purposes of this act, the term "airboat" means any vessel,  
13 as defined in G.S. 75A-2, that is pushed, pulled, or propelled by airpower, including any  
14 vessel with a propulsion mechanism similar to that of an airplane that propels out of  
15 water.

16 **SECTION 5.** This act shall not apply to law enforcement officers, public  
17 rescue or emergency medical personnel, military personnel, or any public lifesaving  
18 personnel in the performance of their official duties.

19 **SECTION 6.** This act is enforceable by law enforcement officers of the  
20 Wildlife Resources Commission and by other law enforcement officers pursuant to their  
21 authority under G.S. 75A-17, as if this act were a provision of Chapter 75A of the  
22 General Statutes.

23 **SECTION 7.** This act applies only to Montgomery and Stanly Counties.  
24 However, either county may adopt an ordinance exempting itself from coverage of this  
25 act and upon doing so the act shall not apply to the waters of Lake Tillery in that  
26 county.

27 **SECTION 8.** This act becomes effective August 1, 2002.