



1           **SECTION 1.** The Legislative Research Commission shall study the  
2 feasibility and the desirability of constructing and establishing a dam and reservoir to be  
3 located on the Cape Fear River in Cumberland County for the purpose of establishing a  
4 regional public drinking water supply and authorizing the Department of Environment  
5 and Natural Resources to add the property surrounding the dam and reservoir to the  
6 State Parks System, as provided in G.S. 113-44.14(b). The Legislative Research  
7 Commission shall consider whether purchasing land and developing a State park in  
8 Cumberland County and constructing and establishing a dam and reservoir on the Cape  
9 Fear River in the State park would:

- 10           (1) Significantly enhance and conserve water quality in the Cape Fear  
11 River and in the area.
- 12           (2) Further the objectives of the basinwide management plans for the Cape  
13 Fear River Basin and watershed.
- 14           (3) Promote regional integrated ecological networks insofar as they affect  
15 water quality.
- 16           (4) Preserve resources with significant recreational or economic value and  
17 uses.
- 18           (5) Add to the development of a network of riparian buffer greenways  
19 bordering the Cape Fear River in the State park that would serve  
20 environmental, educational, and recreational uses.

21           **SECTION 2.** The Legislative Research Commission shall consider the  
22 following issues related to purchasing land and developing a State park in Cumberland  
23 County and constructing and establishing a dam and reservoir on the Cape Fear River in  
24 the State park:

- 25           (1) Whether the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
26 should develop for budget and planning purposes estimates of the costs  
27 of the proposed project.
- 28           (2) Whether the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
29 should request the North Carolina Congressional Delegation to apply  
30 to the Congress of the United States for appropriations for this water  
31 resources development project.
- 32           (3) Whether the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
33 should apply for a grant from the Clean Water Management Trust  
34 Fund under Article 13A of Chapter 113 of the General Statutes to fund  
35 all or part of the proposed project being studied under Section 1 of this  
36 act, including the purchase of land or other interests in property.
- 37           (4) Whether the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
38 should use funds available for water resources development projects to  
39 assist in constructing and establishing the dam and reservoir project  
40 being studied under Section 1 of this act.
- 41           (5) Whether the Department of Environment and Natural Resources,  
42 pursuant to G.S. 143-355(b), should conduct an engineering study and  
43 report of the proposed water resources project consisting of

1                   constructing and establishing the dam and reservoir project being  
2                   studied under Section 1 of this act.

3                   **SECTION 3.** The Division of Parks and Recreation of the Department of  
4 Environment and Natural Resources shall participate in each component of the study  
5 under Section 1 of this act and in the consideration of any issues considered by the  
6 Legislative Research Commission under Section 2 of this act.

7                   **SECTION 4.** The Legislative Research Commission shall make any  
8 recommendations and legislative proposals regarding the proposed project being studied  
9 under Section 1 and Section 2 of this act. The Legislative Research Commission shall  
10 submit a final report to the 2003 General Assembly no later than upon its convening in  
11 2003.

12                   **SECTION 5.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General  
13 Assembly the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the 2002-2003 fiscal  
14 year for the expenses of conducting the study under this act.

15                   **SECTION 6.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2002.