

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2009

H

1

HOUSE BILL 461

Short Title: Extend Animal Waste Operation Inspection Pgm. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hill; and Lucas.

Referred to: Environment and Natural Resources, if favorable, Finance.

March 9, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE SUNSET FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM REGARDING ANNUAL INSPECTIONS OF ANIMAL OPERATIONS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO A GENERAL PERMIT FOR AN ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 15.4(a) of S.L. 1997-443, as amended by Section 3.1 of S.L. 1999-329, Section 5 of S.L. 2001-254, Section 1.1 of S.L. 2002-176, Section 6.1 of S.L. 2003-340, Section 12.7(a) of S.L. 2005-276, and Section 2 of S.L. 2007-536, reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall develop and implement a pilot program to begin no later than 1 November 1997, and to terminate 1 September ~~2009~~,2011, regarding the annual inspections of animal operations that are subject to a permit under Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes. The Department shall select two counties located in a part of the State that has a high concentration of swine farms to participate in this pilot program. In addition, Brunswick County and Pender County shall be added to the program. Notwithstanding G.S. 143-215.10F, the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall conduct inspections of all animal operations that are subject to a permit under Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes in these four counties at least once a year to determine whether any animal waste management system is causing a violation of water quality standards and whether the system is in compliance with its animal waste management plan or any other condition of the permit. The personnel of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation who are to conduct these inspections in each of these four counties shall be located in an office in the county in which that person will be conducting inspections. As part of this pilot program, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall establish procedures whereby resources within the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts serving the four counties are used for the quick response to complaints and reported problems previously referred only to the Division of Water Quality of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective August 31, 2009.

