

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH50219-MH-23 (2/5)

Short Title: Aquarium Satellite Areas Funding. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Spear and Owens (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
3 RESOURCES TO EXPEND EXISTING MONEYS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
4 PROJECTS AT NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM SATELLITE AREAS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Whereas, the unemployment rate for North Carolina reached 8.7% in December
7 2008, the highest rate in more than 25 years; and

8 Whereas, the unemployment rates for December 2008 in Beaufort, Bertie, Chowan,
9 Dare, Hyde, Martin, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties are all above the statewide
10 average; and

11 Whereas, construction of the North Carolina Aquarium Pier at Nags Head will
12 provide 555 on-site jobs and 1,250 off-site jobs and a benefit of more than \$14,000,000 to
13 North Carolina's economy; and

14 Whereas, the North Carolina Aquarium Pier at Nags Head will serve as a significant
15 demonstration of building features and construction techniques for reducing environmental
16 impacts for public buildings in the coastal region of North Carolina, including cisterns, solar
17 panels, and wind turbines for on-site clean power generation, and on-site containment and
18 treatment of stormwater runoff; Now, therefore,

19 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly authorizes capital projects related to the
20 construction of the North Carolina Aquarium Pier at Nags Head by the Aquariums Division of
21 the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to be funded with receipts or from other
22 non-General Fund sources and at a cost in aggregate for all projects not to exceed twenty-five
23 million dollars (\$25,000,000).

24 **SECTION 2.** Funds transferred to the Department of Natural Resources by Section
25 21.14 of Session Law 2006-66 for a stormwater pilot project to clean up State-maintained
26 ocean outfalls and associated outlets and not used for that purpose shall be transferred to the
27 North Carolina Aquariums Fund.

28 **SECTION 3.** Should United States Public Law 111-005, the American Recovery
29 and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Federal Act), provide funding for capital improvement
30 projects described in Section 1 of this act, then those funds shall be used for the capital
31 improvement projects before the funds transferred by Section 1 of this act.

32 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

