

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE DRH40393-MHa-154A (04/07)

Short Title: Funds for Drainage Improvements. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Waddell, Brisson, Hamilton, and Iler (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
3 COMMISSION FOR ENHANCEMENT OF DRAINAGE AND ALLEVIATION OF
4 DRAINAGE PROBLEMS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of
7 Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services the sum
8 of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 2015-2016 fiscal year to be used for a matching
9 grant program to assist low-lying counties with drainage improvements and programs for
10 mitigation of drainage problems, to include beaver control programs. For purposes of this
11 section, a low-lying county is any county that includes areas with an elevation less than 125
12 feet above sea level, according to data produced by the North Carolina Center for Geographic
13 Information and Analysis.

14 **SECTION 1.(b)** The matching grant program for low-lying counties created by
15 subsection (a) of this section shall provide to a local soil and water conservation district board
16 of supervisors up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the nonfederal share for districts located in a
17 development tier one or tier two county and up to fifty percent (50%) of the nonfederal share
18 for districts located in development tier three counties for projects meeting the following
19 criteria:

- 20 (1) The purpose of the project is to improve drainage or address drainage
21 problems, including beaver control programs, in an area that due to a lack of
22 consistent or continual maintenance is causing excessive damage to
23 personal, commercial, county, or municipal property, as determined by the
24 local soil and water conservation district board in the application for project
25 funding.
- 26 (2) The county board of commissioners or the municipal governing board for
27 the county or municipality containing the proposed project area has adopted
28 a resolution of support for the grant application.
- 29 (3) The project will be implemented under rules and guidelines issued by the
30 Division, which shall include the acquisition of any required easements or
31 permissions from property owners impacted by the proposed project.

32 **SECTION 1.(c)** Funding provided under this act is limited to no more than one
33 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for all projects in any county.

34 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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