

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL DRH10541-MQa-124

Short Title: Study NC Ports/Manufacturing Supply Chain. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Grange, Goodwin, Torbett, and K. Hall (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO
3 CONDUCT A STUDY OF PORTS AND A SUPPLY CHAIN ANALYSIS FOR
4 OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Department of Commerce shall conduct a study of State ports
7 and other transportation infrastructure to identify existing assets, current capabilities, and needed
8 investments to assist in providing services for cargo, transportation, and trade, and to identify
9 potential improvements to enhance the ability of the State to facilitate and foster the growth of
10 offshore wind supply chain industries in North Carolina. In conducting the study, the Department
11 of Commerce shall consult with the North Carolina State Ports Authority and may engage local
12 government entities and other stakeholders with relevant expertise as the Department deems
13 appropriate.

14 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Department of Commerce shall conduct an economic
15 development study to evaluate the State's business advantages, economic climate, workforce
16 readiness, ports and transportation assets studied in subsection (a) of this section, and any other
17 relevant State assets to create a roadmap for North Carolina to effectively compete in attracting
18 offshore wind energy supply chain industries to the State. In conducting this economic
19 development study and in creating a roadmap, the Department shall consider at least all of the
20 following:

- 21 (1) Identification and characterization of discrete segments within the offshore
22 wind supply chain, including major manufacturing operations, specialty
23 component manufacturing, component assembly, and ancillary services for
24 future offshore wind energy projects along the east coast of the United States.
25 (2) Estimated number and type of direct manufacturing jobs.
26 (3) Potential ancillary economic benefits.
27 (4) Potential industry investment in North Carolina and opportunities for rural
28 economic development.
29 (5) Highest impact investment opportunities to produce the largest net economic
30 benefit.
31 (6) Potential benefits to local tax bases.
32 (7) Expected additional contribution to State economic output.
33 (8) Any additional information the Department identifies as relevant to the
34 conduct of its study.

35 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Department of Commerce shall submit the reports and the
36 roadmap described in this section, and any legislative recommendations, to the Joint Legislative



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1 Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources and the Fiscal
2 Research Division on or before March 1, 2020.
3 **SECTION 1.(d)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
4 Commerce the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) in nonreverting funds for the
5 2019-2020 fiscal year to conduct the studies and create the roadmap described in this section.
6 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.