

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 1339*

Short Title: Nitrogen Reduction Goal.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Mitchell; Culp, Locke, Nichols, Tolson, and Weatherly.

Referred to: Health and Environment.

May 24, 1996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 **AN ACT TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY BY ESTABLISHING A GOAL TO**
3 **REDUCE THE AVERAGE LOAD OF NITROGEN DELIVERED TO THE NEUSE**
4 **RIVER ESTUARY FROM POINT AND NONPOINT SOURCES BY THIRTY**
5 **PERCENT OF THE AVERAGE ANNUAL LOAD FOR THE PERIOD 1991**
6 **THROUGH 1995 BY THE YEAR 2001 AND TO REQUIRE THE**
7 **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO**
8 **ACHIEVE THIS GOAL, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL**
9 **REVIEW COMMISSION.**

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 Section 1. The General Assembly hereby determines that it should be the goal
12 of this State to reduce the average annual load of nitrogen delivered to the Neuse River
13 Estuary from point and nonpoint sources by thirty percent (30%) of the average annual
14 load for the period 1991 through 1995 by the year 2001, with incremental progress
15 demonstrated each year. The Environmental Management Commission shall develop and
16 adopt a plan to achieve this goal. In developing this plan, the Commission shall
17 determine and allow appropriate credit toward achieving this goal for reductions of water
18 pollution by point and nonpoint sources through voluntary measures.

19 Sec. 2. The Commission shall publish a proposed plan to achieve the goal
20 established by this act in the North Carolina Register by 1 November 1996. The

1 Commission shall adopt the plan as provided in Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the
2 General Statutes.

3 Sec. 3. The Environmental Management Commission shall annually report to
4 the Environmental Review Commission as to its progress in developing and adopting the
5 plan required by this act and as to progress in implementing the plan and achieving the
6 goal established by this act. The Environmental Management Commission shall make its
7 initial report to the Environmental Review Commission on or before 1 November 1996.

8 Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.