

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

H

1

HOUSE BILL 57

Short Title: Withholding for Nonresidents.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Representatives Neely, Blue, Cansler, Capps, Church, Shubert; Hill and Mosley.

---

Referred to: Finance.

---

February 5, 1997

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE WITHHOLDING FROM CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO  
3 NONRESIDENTS IN ORDER TO PREVENT NONRESIDENTS FROM  
4 AVOIDING NORTH CAROLINA INCOME TAXES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 105-163.1(15) reads as rewritten:

7 "(15) Wages. – The term has the same meaning as in section 3401 of the Code  
8 except it does not include ~~remuneration paid by a farmer for services~~  
9 ~~performed on the farmer's farm in producing or harvesting agricultural~~  
10 ~~products or in transporting the agricultural products to market. either of~~  
11 the following:

12 a. Remuneration paid by a farmer for services performed on the  
13 farmer's farm in producing or harvesting agricultural products or  
14 in transporting the agricultural products to market.

15 b. The first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of severance  
16 wages paid to an employee during the taxable year as the result  
17 of the permanent closure of a manufacturing or processing plant."

18 Section 2. Article 4A of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, as amended by  
19 Section 1 of this act, reads as rewritten:

1 "ARTICLE 4A.

2 ~~"WITHHOLDING OF INCOME TAXES FROM WAGES AND PAYMENT OF~~  
3 ~~INCOME~~

4 ~~TAX BY WITHHOLDING; ESTIMATED INCOME TAX FOR INDIVIDUALS.~~

5 "§ 105-163.1. Definitions.

6 The following definitions apply in this Article:

- 7 (1) Compensation. – Consideration a payer pays a nonresident individual or  
8 nonresident entity for personal services performed in this State.
- 9 (2) Contractor. – Either of the following:  
10 a. A nonresident individual who performs personal services in this  
11 State for compensation other than wages.  
12 b. A nonresident entity that provides for the performance of  
13 personal services in this State for compensation.
- 14 (3) Dependent. – An individual with respect to whom an income tax  
15 exemption is allowed under the Code.
- 16 (4) Employee. – An individual, whether a resident or a nonresident of this  
17 State, who performs services in this State for wages or an individual  
18 who is a resident of this State and performs services outside this State  
19 for wages. The term includes an ordained or licensed member of the  
20 clergy who elects to be considered an employee under G.S. 105-163.1A,  
21 an officer of a corporation, and an elected public official.
- 22 (5) Employer. – A person for whom an individual performs services for  
23 wages. In applying the requirements to withhold income taxes from  
24 wages and pay the withheld taxes, the term includes a person who:  
25 a. Controls the payment of wages to an individual for services  
26 performed for another.  
27 b. Pays wages on behalf of a person who is not engaged in trade or  
28 business in this State.  
29 c. Pays wages on behalf of a unit of government that is not located  
30 in this State.  
31 d. Pays wages for any other reason.
- 32 (6) Individual. – Defined in G.S. 105-134.1.
- 33 (7) Miscellaneous payroll period. – A payroll period other than a daily,  
34 weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or  
35 annual payroll period.
- 36 (8) Nonresident entity. – Any of the following:  
37 a. A foreign limited liability company, as defined in G.S. 57C-1-03,  
38 that has not obtained a certificate of authority from the Secretary  
39 of State pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 57C of the General  
40 Statutes.  
41 b. A foreign limited partnership as defined in G.S. 59-102 or a  
42 general partnership formed under the laws of any jurisdiction

- 1                    other than this State, unless the partnership maintains a  
2                    permanent place of business in this State.
- 3                    c.    A foreign corporation, as defined in G.S. 55-1-40, that has not  
4                    obtained a certificate of authority from the Secretary of State  
5                    pursuant to Article 15 of Chapter 55 of the General Statutes.
- 6                    (9)   Pass-through entity. – Defined in G.S. 105-163.010.
- 7                    (10)   Payer. – A person who contracts to pay a nonresident individual or a  
8                    nonresident entity compensation for personal services performed in this  
9                    State.
- 10                    (11)   Payroll period. – A period for which an employer ordinarily pays wages  
11                    to an employee of the employer.
- 12                    (12)   Taxable year. – Defined in section 441(b) of the Code.
- 13                    (13)   Wages. – The term has the same meaning as in section 3401 of the Code  
14                    except it does not include any of the following:
- 15                    a.    Remuneration paid by a farmer for services performed on the  
16                    farmer's farm in producing or harvesting agricultural products or  
17                    in transporting the agricultural products to market.
- 18                    b.    The first thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of severance  
19                    wages paid to an employee during the taxable year as the result  
20                    of the permanent closure of a manufacturing or processing plant.
- 21                    c.    The amount an employer pays an employee as reimbursement for  
22                    ordinary and necessary expenses incurred by the employee on  
23                    behalf of the employer and in the furtherance of the business of  
24                    the employer.
- 25                    (14)   Withholding agent. – An employer or a payer.
- 26                    ~~(1)   Code. — Defined in G.S. 105-228.90.~~
- 27                    ~~(2)   Repealed by Session Laws 1989 (Regular Session, 1990), c. 945, s. 5.~~
- 28                    ~~(3)   Dependent. — An individual with respect to whom an income tax~~  
29                    ~~exemption is allowed under the Code.~~
- 30                    ~~(4)   Employee. — An individual, whether a resident or a nonresident of this~~  
31                    ~~State, who performs services in this State for wages or an individual~~  
32                    ~~who is a resident of this State and performs services outside this State~~  
33                    ~~for wages. The term includes an ordained or licensed clergyman who~~  
34                    ~~elects to be considered an employee under G.S. 105-163.1A, an officer~~  
35                    ~~of a corporation, and an elected public official.~~
- 36                    ~~(5)   Employer. — A person for whom an individual performs services for~~  
37                    ~~wages. In applying the requirements to withhold income taxes from~~  
38                    ~~wages and pay the withheld taxes, the term includes a person who:~~
- 39                    a.    ~~Controls the payment of wages to an individual for services~~  
40                    ~~performed for another.~~
- 41                    b.    ~~Pays wages on behalf of a person who is not engaged in trade or~~  
42                    ~~business in this State.~~

- 1 e. Pays wages on behalf of a unit of government that is not located  
2 in this State.
- 3 d. Pays wages for any other reason.
- 4 (6), (7) Repealed by Session Laws 1989 (Regular Session, 1990), c. 945, s.  
5 5.
- 6 (8) Fiduciary.—A guardian, a trustee, an executor, an administrator, a  
7 receiver, a conservator, or other person acting in a fiduciary capacity for  
8 another.
- 9 (9) Fiscal year.—Defined in section 441(e) of the Code.
- 10 (10) Individual.—A natural person.
- 11 (11) Miscellaneous payroll period.—A payroll period other than a daily,  
12 weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or  
13 annual payroll period.
- 14 (12) Payroll period.—A period for which an employer ordinarily pays wages  
15 to an employee of the employer.
- 16 (13) Person.—Defined in G.S. 105-228.90.
- 17 (14) Taxable year.—Defined in section 441(b) of the Code.
- 18 (14a) Secretary.—The Secretary of Revenue.
- 19 (15) Wages.—The term has the same meaning as in section 3401 of the Code  
20 except it does not include either of the following:
- 21 a. Remuneration paid by a farmer for services performed on the  
22 farmer's farm in producing or harvesting agricultural products or  
23 in transporting the agricultural products to market.
- 24 b. The first thirty five thousand dollars (\$35,000) of severance  
25 wages paid to an employee during the taxable year as the result  
26 of the permanent closure of a manufacturing or processing plant.

27 **"§ 105-163.2. Withholding. Employers must withhold taxes.**

28 (a) Withholding Required. — An employer shall deduct and withhold from the  
29 wages of each employee the State income taxes payable by the employee on the wages.  
30 For each payroll period, the employer shall withhold from the employee's wages an  
31 amount that would approximate the employee's income tax liability under Article 4 of  
32 this Chapter if the employer withheld the same amount from the employee's wages for  
33 each similar payroll period in a calendar year. In calculating an employee's anticipated  
34 income tax liability, the employer shall allow for the exemptions, deductions, and credits  
35 to which the employee is entitled under Article 4 of this Chapter. The amount of State  
36 income taxes withheld by an employer is held in trust for the Secretary.

37 (b) Withholding Tables. — The manner of withholding and the amount to be  
38 withheld shall be determined in accordance with tables and rules adopted by the  
39 Secretary. The withholding exemption allowed by these tables and rules shall, as nearly  
40 as possible, approximate the exemptions, deductions, and credits to which an employee  
41 would be entitled under Article 4 of this Chapter. The Secretary shall ~~cause to be prepared~~  
42 ~~and shall~~ promulgate tables for computing amounts to be withheld with respect to  
43 different rates of wages for different payroll periods applicable to the various

1 combinations of exemptions to which an employee may be entitled and taking into  
2 account the appropriate standard deduction. The tables may provide for the same amount  
3 to be withheld within reasonable salary brackets or ranges so designed as to result in the  
4 withholding during a year of approximately the amount of an employee's indicated  
5 income tax liability for that year. The withholding of wages pursuant to and in  
6 accordance with these tables shall be deemed as a matter of law to constitute compliance  
7 with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, notwithstanding any other provisions  
8 of this Article.

9 (c) Withholding if No Payroll Period. – If wages are paid with respect to a period  
10 ~~which that~~ is not a payroll period, the amount to be deducted and withheld shall be that  
11 applicable in the case of a miscellaneous payroll period containing a number of days,  
12 excluding Sundays and holidays, equal to the number of days in the period with respect to  
13 which such wages are paid. ~~(d) In paid.~~ In any case in which wages are paid by an  
14 employer without regard to any payroll period or other period, the amount to be deducted  
15 and withheld shall be that applicable in the case of a miscellaneous payroll period  
16 containing a number of days equal to the number of days, excluding Sundays and  
17 holidays, which have elapsed since the date of the last payment of such wages by such  
18 employer during the calendar year, or the date of commencement of employment with  
19 such employer during such year, or January 1 of such year, whichever is the later.

20 (d) Estimated Withholding. – The Secretary may, by rule, authorize employers to  
21 estimate the wages to be paid to an employee during a calendar quarter, calculate the  
22 amount to be withheld for each period based on the estimated wages, and, upon payment  
23 of wages to the employee, adjust the withholding so that the amount actually withheld is  
24 the amount that would be required to be withheld if the employee's payroll period were  
25 quarterly.

26 (e) Alternatives to Tables. – If the Secretary determines that use of the  
27 withholding tables would be impractical, would impose an unreasonable burden on an  
28 employer, or would produce substantially incorrect results, the Secretary may authorize  
29 or require an employer to use some other method of determining the amounts to be  
30 withheld under this Article. The alternative method authorized by the Secretary must  
31 reasonably approximate the predicted income tax liability of the affected employees. In  
32 addition, with the agreement of the employer and employee, the Secretary may authorize  
33 an employer to use an alternative method that results in withholding of a greater amount  
34 than otherwise required under this section.

35 The Secretary's authorization of an alternative method is discretionary and may be  
36 cancelled at any time without advance notice if the Secretary finds that the method is  
37 being abused or is not resulting in the withholding of an amount reasonably  
38 approximating the predicted income tax liability of the affected employees. The  
39 Secretary shall give an employer written notice of any cancellation and the findings upon  
40 which the cancellation is based. The cancellation becomes effective upon the employer's  
41 receipt of this notice or on the third day after the notice was mailed to the employer,  
42 whichever occurs first. If the employer requests a hearing on the cancellation within 30

1 days after the cancellation, the Secretary shall grant a hearing. After a hearing, the  
2 Secretary's findings are conclusive.

3 (e) The Secretary may, by regulations, authorize employers:

4 (1) To estimate the wages which will be paid to any employee in any  
5 quarter of the calendar year;

6 (2) To determine the amount to be deducted and withheld upon each  
7 payment of wages to such employee during such quarter as if the  
8 appropriate average of the wages so estimated constituted the actual  
9 wages paid; and

10 (3) To deduct and withhold upon any payment of wages to such employee  
11 during such quarter such amount as may be necessary to adjust the  
12 amount actually deducted and withheld upon the wages of such  
13 employee during such quarter to the amount that would be required to  
14 be deducted and withheld during such quarter if the payroll period of the  
15 employee was quarterly.

16 (f) The Secretary is authorized in unusual circumstances wherein he finds that the  
17 use of the prescribed tables is impracticable or constitutes an unreasonable requirement of  
18 the employer to authorize such employer to use some other method of determining the  
19 amounts to be withheld under this Article, provided the amounts withheld under such  
20 other method will reasonably approximate the indicated income tax liability of his  
21 employees. Further, the Secretary may authorize an employer to use another method for  
22 determining the amounts to be withheld under the provisions of this Article from the  
23 wages or salaries of groups of employees or individual employees if the circumstances  
24 are such that the use of the tables would produce substantially incorrect results. Any  
25 authorization of the use of a different method shall be subject to review and cancellation  
26 or alteration by the Secretary every twelfth month, and the Secretary may cancel such  
27 authorization or order an alteration of such method at any time upon a finding by him that  
28 such authorization is being abused or that such method is not resulting in the withholding  
29 of a sum reasonably approximating the indicated income tax liability of the employees,  
30 which finding may be made by the Secretary with or without notice or a hearing and shall  
31 be conclusive except as hereinafter provided. The Secretary shall notify the employer in  
32 writing of his finding and order thereon, and such notice shall be deemed to have been  
33 received by the employer on the third day after having been deposited in the mail and the  
34 employer shall thereafter abide by such order. Any employer feeling aggrieved by such  
35 order may thereafter apply for a hearing thereon before the Secretary, unless a hearing  
36 has been previously held, and upon such hearing the findings of the Secretary shall be  
37 deemed conclusive.

38 (g) The Secretary is authorized to provide by regulation, under such conditions and  
39 to such extent as he deems proper, for withholding in addition to that otherwise required  
40 under this section in cases in which the employer and the employee agree to such  
41 additional withholding. Such additional withholding shall for all purposes be treated as  
42 other withholding amounts required to be deducted and withheld under this Article.

1       (h) ~~The act of compliance with any of the provisions of this Article by a~~  
2 ~~nonresident employer shall not constitute an act in evidence of and shall not be deemed to~~  
3 ~~be evidence that such nonresident is doing business in this State.~~

4 **"§ 105-163.3. Withholding in accordance with regulations. Certain payers must**  
5 **withhold taxes.**

6       (a) Requirement. – Every payer shall deduct and withhold from compensation paid  
7 to a contractor the State income taxes payable by the contractor on the compensation as  
8 provided in this section. The amount of taxes to be withheld is four percent (4%) of the  
9 compensation paid to the contractor. The taxes a payer withholds are held in trust for the  
10 Secretary.

11       (b) Thresholds. – For a payer that is an employer subject to the withholding  
12 requirement of G.S. 105-163.2, withholding is required under this section only if the total  
13 compensation the payer pays to the contractor during the calendar year exceeds six  
14 hundred dollars (\$600.00). For other payers, withholding is required only if the total  
15 compensation the payer pays to the contractor during the calendar year exceeds ten  
16 thousand dollars (\$10,000).

17       (c) Exemptions. – The withholding requirement does not apply to the following:

18           (1) Compensation that is subject to the withholding requirement of G.S.  
19 105-163.2.

20           (2) Compensation paid to an ordained or licensed member of the clergy.

21       (d) Returns; Due Date. – A payer shall file a return with the Secretary on a form  
22 prepared by the Secretary and shall provide any information required by the Secretary.  
23 The return is due 15 days after the end of each month during which the payer pays  
24 compensation to a contractor. Withheld taxes are payable when the return is due. The  
25 Secretary may extend the time for filing the return or paying the tax as provided in G.S.  
26 105-263.

27       (e) Annual Statement; Report to Secretary. – A payer required to deduct and  
28 withhold from a contractor's compensation under this section shall furnish to the  
29 contractor duplicate copies of a written statement showing the following:

30           (1) The payer's name, address, and taxpayer identification number.

31           (2) The contractor's name, address, and taxpayer identification number.

32           (3) The total amount of compensation paid during the calendar year.

33           (4) The total amount deducted and withheld under this section during the  
34 calendar year.

35 This statement is due by January 31 following the calendar year or, if the contract is  
36 completed before the end of the calendar year, within 45 days after the payer's last  
37 payment of compensation to the contractor. The Secretary may require the payer to  
38 include additional information on the statement.

39 Each payer shall file with the Secretary an annual report that compiles the information  
40 contained in each of the payer's statements to contractors and any other information  
41 required by the Secretary. This report is due on the date prescribed by the Secretary and  
42 is in lieu of the information report required by G.S. 105-154.

1 (f) Records. – If a payer does not withhold from payments to a nonresident  
2 corporation or a nonresident limited liability company because the entity has obtained a  
3 certificate of authority from the Secretary of State, the payer shall obtain from the entity  
4 its corporate identification number issued by the Secretary of State. If a payer does not  
5 withhold from payments to an individual because the individual is a resident, the payer  
6 shall obtain the individual's address and social security number. If a payer does not  
7 withhold from a partnership because the partnership has a permanent place of business in  
8 this State, the payer shall obtain the partnership's address and taxpayer identification  
9 number. The payer shall retain this information with its records.

10 ~~The manner of withholding and the amount to be deducted and withheld under G.S.~~  
11 ~~105-163.2 shall be determined in accordance with tables, rules, and regulations adopted~~  
12 ~~by the Secretary. The withholding exemption allowed by these tables, rules, and~~  
13 ~~regulations shall, as nearly as possible, approximate the exemptions, deductions, and~~  
14 ~~credits to which an employee would be entitled under Article 4 of this Chapter.~~

15 **"§ 105-163.4. Withholding does not create nexus.**

16 A nonresident withholding agent's act in compliance with this Article does not in  
17 itself constitute evidence that the nonresident is doing business in this State.

18 **~~No withholding from reimbursement for expenses.~~**

19 ~~The amount an employer pays an employee as reimbursement for ordinary and~~  
20 ~~necessary expenses incurred by the employee on behalf of the employer and in the~~  
21 ~~furtherance of the business of the employer is not wages and is not subject to withholding~~  
22 ~~under this Article.~~

23 **"§ 105-163.5. Exemptions ~~Employee exemptions allowable; certificates.~~**

24 (a) An employee receiving wages shall ~~be~~ is entitled to the exemptions for which  
25 ~~such the~~ employee qualifies under the provisions of Article 4 of this Chapter.

26 (b) Every employee shall, ~~on or before January 1, 1960, or~~ at the time of  
27 commencing employment, ~~whichever is later,~~ furnish his or her employer with a signed  
28 withholding exemption certificate informing the employer of the exemptions the  
29 employee claims, which in no event shall exceed the amount of exemptions to which the  
30 employee is entitled under the Code; ~~but, in the event that~~ Code. If the employee fails to  
31 file the exemption certificate the employer, in computing amounts to be withheld from  
32 the employee's wages, shall allow the employee the exemption accorded a single person  
33 with no dependents.

34 (c) Withholding exemption certificates shall take effect as of the beginning of the  
35 first payroll period ~~which that~~ ends on or after the date on which ~~such the~~ certificate is  
36 furnished, or if payment of wages is made without regard to a payroll period, then ~~such~~  
37 the certificate shall take effect as of the beginning of the miscellaneous payroll period for  
38 which the first payment of wages is made on or after the date on which ~~such the~~  
39 certificate is furnished; ~~provided, that certificates furnished before January 1, 1960, shall be~~  
40 ~~deemed to have been furnished on that date.~~ furnished.

41 (d) If, on any day during the calendar year, the amount of withholding exemptions  
42 to which the employee is entitled is less than the amount of withholding exemptions  
43 claimed by the employee on the withholding exemption certificate then in effect with



1 respect to ~~him, the employee,~~ the employee shall, within 10 days thereafter, furnish the  
2 employer with a new withholding exemption certificate ~~relating to~~ stating the amount of  
3 withholding exemptions which the employee then claims, which shall in no event exceed  
4 the amount to which ~~he~~ the employee is entitled on ~~such~~ that day. If, on any day during  
5 the calendar year, the amount of withholding exemptions to which the employee is  
6 entitled is greater than the amount of withholding exemptions claimed, the employee may  
7 furnish the employer with a new withholding exemption certificate ~~relating to~~ stating the  
8 amount of withholding exemptions which the employee then claims, which shall in no  
9 event exceed the amount to which ~~he~~ the employee is entitled on ~~such~~ that day.

10 (e) Withholding exemption certificates ~~shall be in such form and contain such~~  
11 ~~information as the Secretary may prescribe, but, insofar~~ must be in the form and contain the  
12 information required by the Secretary. As far as practicable, the Secretary shall cause the  
13 form of ~~such~~ the certificates to be substantially similar to federal exemption certificates.

14 (f) In addition to any criminal penalty provided by law, if an individual furnishes  
15 his or her employer ~~with~~ an exemption certificate that contains information which has no  
16 reasonable basis and that results in a lesser amount of tax being withheld under this  
17 Article than would have been withheld if the individual had furnished reasonable  
18 information, the individual is subject to a penalty of fifty percent (50%) of the amount not  
19 properly withheld.

20 **"§ 105-163.6. When employer must file returns and pay withheld taxes.**

21 (a) General. – A return is due quarterly or monthly as specified in this section. A  
22 return shall be filed with the Secretary on a form prepared by the Secretary, shall report  
23 any payments of withheld taxes made during the period covered by the return, and shall  
24 contain any other information required by the Secretary.

25 Withheld taxes are payable quarterly, monthly, or semiweekly, as specified in this  
26 section. If the Secretary finds that collection of the amount of taxes this Article requires  
27 an employer to withhold is in jeopardy, the Secretary may require the employer to file a  
28 return or pay withheld taxes at a time other than that specified in this section.

29 (b) Quarterly. – An employer who withholds an average of less than five hundred  
30 dollars (\$500.00) of State income taxes from wages each month shall file a return and pay  
31 the withheld taxes on a quarterly basis. A quarterly return covers a calendar quarter and is  
32 due by the last day of the month following the end of the quarter.

33 (c) Monthly. – An employer who withholds an average of at least five hundred  
34 dollars (\$500.00) but less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) from wages each month  
35 shall file a return and pay the withheld taxes on a monthly basis. A return for the months  
36 of January through November is due by the 15th day of the month following the end of  
37 the month covered by the return. A return for the month of December is due the  
38 following January 31.

39 (d) Semiweekly. – An employer who withholds an average of at least two  
40 thousand dollars (\$2,000) of State income taxes from wages each month shall file a return  
41 by the date set under the Code for filing a return for federal employment taxes  
42 attributable to the same wages and shall pay the withheld State taxes by the date set under  
43 the Code for depositing or paying federal employment taxes attributable to the same

1 wages. The date set by the Code for depositing or paying federal employment taxes shall  
2 be determined without regard to § 6302(g) of the Code.

3 An extension of time granted to file a return for federal employment taxes attributable  
4 to wages is an automatic extension of time for filing a return for State income taxes  
5 withheld from the same wages, and an extension of time granted to pay federal  
6 employment taxes attributable to wages is an automatic extension of time for paying  
7 State income taxes withheld from the same wages. An employer who pays withheld State  
8 income taxes under this subsection is not subject to interest on or penalties for a shortfall  
9 in the amount due if the employer would not be subject to a failure-to-deposit penalty had  
10 the shortfall occurred in a deposit of federal employment taxes attributable to the same  
11 wages and the employer pays the shortfall by the date the employer would have to  
12 deposit a shortfall in the federal employment taxes.

13 (e) Category. – The Secretary shall monitor the amount of taxes withheld by an  
14 employer or estimate the amount of taxes to be withheld by a new employer and shall  
15 direct each employer to pay withheld taxes in accordance with the appropriate schedule.  
16 An employer shall file a return and pay withheld taxes in accordance with the Secretary's  
17 direction until notified in writing to file and pay under a different schedule.

18 **"§ 105-163.7. Statement to employees; information to Secretary.**

19 (a) Every employer required to deduct and withhold from an employee's wages  
20 under G.S. 105-163.2 shall furnish to ~~each such the~~ employee in respect to the  
21 remuneration paid by ~~such the~~ employer to such employee during the calendar year, on or  
22 before January 31 of the succeeding year, or, if ~~his the~~ employment is terminated before  
23 the close of ~~such the~~ calendar year, within 30 days ~~from~~ after the date on which the last  
24 payment of remuneration is made, duplicate copies of a written statement showing the  
25 following:

- 26 (1) ~~The name of such person;~~ employer's name, address, and taxpayer  
27 identification number.
- 28 (2) ~~The name of the employee and his~~ employee's name and social security  
29 account number; number.
- 30 (3) The total amount of ~~wages;~~ wages.
- 31 (4) The total amount deducted and withheld under G.S. 105-163.2.

32 (b) The Secretary may require an employer to include information not listed in  
33 subsection (a) on the employer's written statement to an employee and to file the  
34 statement at a time not required by subsection (a). Every employer shall file an annual  
35 report with the Secretary that contains the information given on each of the employer's  
36 written statements to an employee and other information required by the Secretary. The  
37 annual report is due on the same date the employer's federal information return of federal  
38 income taxes withheld from wages is due under the Code. The report required by this  
39 subsection is in lieu of the report required by G.S. 105-154.

40 (c) An employer who is required to file an annual report under subsection (b) of  
41 this section must report to the Secretary the following information concerning  
42 compliance with Article 1 of Chapter 97 of the General Statutes, the Workers'  
43 Compensation Act:

- 1 (1) Whether the employer is required to maintain insurance or qualify as a  
2 self-insured employer under the provisions of G.S. 97-93.
- 3 (2) Whether the employer is insured, self-insured through a group, or  
4 individually self-insured.
- 5 (3) The name of the employer's workers' compensation insurance carrier  
6 and the number and expiration date of the insurance policy if the  
7 employer has workers' compensation insurance.
- 8 (4) The name of the self-insured group, the group's third-party  
9 administrator, and the group's or employer's self-insured code number  
10 used by the Department of Insurance, if the employer is a member of a  
11 self-insured group.
- 12 (5) The name of the employer's third-party administrator and the employer's  
13 self-insured code number used by the Department of Insurance, if the  
14 employer is individually self-insured.
- 15 (6) Whether any information reported to the Secretary on a previous return  
16 has changed.

17 The Secretary must compile the information concerning workers' compensation  
18 reported by employers on an annual report and must give the compiled data to the  
19 Industrial Commission.

20 **"§ 105-163.8. Liability of ~~employer~~ withholding agents and others.**

21 (a) ~~Employer.~~ Withholding Agents. – A withholding agent who  
22 withholds the proper amount of income taxes under ~~G.S. 105-163.2~~ this Article and pays  
23 the withheld amount to the Secretary is not liable to any person for the amount paid. ~~An~~  
24 ~~employer~~ A withholding agent who fails to withhold the proper amount of income taxes or  
25 pay the amount withheld to the Secretary is liable for the amount of tax not withheld or  
26 not paid. ~~An employer~~ A withholding agent who fails to withhold the amount of income  
27 taxes required by this Article or who fails to pay withheld taxes by the due date for  
28 paying the taxes is subject to ~~a penalty equal to twenty five percent (25%) of the amount of~~  
29 ~~taxes not withheld or not timely paid to the Secretary.~~ the penalties provided in Article 9 of  
30 this Chapter.

31 (b) Others. – A person who has a duty to deduct, account for, or pay taxes required  
32 to be withheld under ~~G.S. 105-163.2~~ this Article and who fails to do so is liable for the  
33 amount of tax not deducted, not accounted for, or not paid.

34 **"§ 105-163.9. Refund of overpayment to ~~employer~~ withholding agent.**

35 ~~An employer~~ A withholding agent who pays the Secretary more under this Article than  
36 the Article requires the ~~employer~~ agent to pay may obtain a refund of the overpayment by  
37 filing an application for a refund with the Secretary. No refund is allowed, however, if  
38 the ~~employer~~ withholding agent withheld the amount of the overpayment from the wages  
39 of the employer's employees ~~wages or compensation of the agent's employees or~~  
40 contractors. ~~An employer~~ A withholding agent must file an application for a refund within  
41 the time period set in G.S. 105-266. Interest accrues on a refund as provided in G.S. 105-  
42 266.

43 **"§ 105-163.10. Withheld amounts credited to ~~individual~~ taxpayer for calendar year.**

1 The amount deducted and withheld under ~~G.S. 105-163.2~~ this Article during any  
2 calendar year from the wages or compensation of any an individual shall be allowed as a  
3 credit to that individual against the tax imposed by ~~G.S. 105-134.2~~ Article 4 of this  
4 Chapter for taxable years beginning in that calendar year. The amount deducted and  
5 withheld under this Article during any calendar year from the compensation of a  
6 nonresident entity shall be allowed as a credit to that entity against the tax imposed by  
7 Article 4 of this Chapter for taxable years beginning in that calendar year. If the  
8 nonresident entity is a pass-through entity, the entity shall pass through and allocate to  
9 each owner the owner's share of the credit.

10 If more than one taxable year begins in ~~that calendar year~~ the calendar year during  
11 which the withholding occurred, the amount shall be allowed as a credit against the tax  
12 for the last taxable year so beginning. To obtain the credit allowed in this section, the  
13 individual or nonresident entity must file with the Secretary one copy of the withholding  
14 statement required by G.S. 105-163.3 or G.S. 105-163.7 and any other information the  
15 Secretary requires.

16 "§ 105-163.11 to 105-163.14. **Repealed by Session Laws 1985, c. 443, s. 1, effective**  
17 **for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1986.**

18 "**§ 105-163.15. Failure by individual to pay estimated income tax; penalty.**

19 (a) In the case of any underpayment of the estimated tax by an individual, there  
20 shall be added to the tax imposed under Article 4 for the taxable year an amount  
21 determined by applying the applicable annual rate established under G.S. 105-241.1(i) to  
22 the amount of the underpayment for the period of the underpayment.

23 (b) For purposes of subsection (a), the amount of the underpayment shall be the  
24 excess of the required installment, over the amount, if any, of the installment paid on or  
25 before the due date for the installment. The period of the underpayment shall run from the  
26 due date for the installment to whichever of the following dates is the earlier: (i) the  
27 fifteenth day of the fourth month following the close of the taxable year, or (ii) with  
28 respect to any portion of the underpayment, the date on which such portion is paid. A  
29 payment of estimated tax shall be credited against unpaid required installments in the  
30 order in which such installments are required to be paid.

31 (c) For purposes of this section there shall be four required installments for each  
32 taxable year with the time for payment of the installments as follows:

- 33 (1) First installment – April 15 of taxable year;
- 34 (2) Second installment – June 15 of taxable year;
- 35 (3) Third installment – September 15 of taxable year; and
- 36 (4) Fourth installment – January 15 of following taxable year.

37 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e), the amount of any required installment  
38 shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the required annual payment. The term 'required  
39 annual payment' means the lesser of:

- 40 (1) Ninety percent (90%) of the tax shown on the return for the taxable  
41 year, or, if no return is filed, ninety percent (90%) of the tax for that  
42 year; or

1           (2) One hundred percent (100%) of the tax shown on the return of the  
2 individual for the preceding taxable year, if the preceding taxable year  
3 was a taxable year of 12 months and the individual filed a return for that  
4 year.

5           (e) In the case of any required installment, if the individual establishes that the  
6 annualized income installment is less than the amount determined under subsection (d),  
7 the amount of the required installment shall be the annualized income installment, and  
8 any reduction in a required installment resulting from the application of this subsection  
9 shall be recaptured by increasing the amount of the next required installment determined  
10 under subsection (d) by the amount of the reduction and by increasing subsequent  
11 required installments to the extent that the reduction has not previously been recaptured.

12           In the case of any required installment, the annualized income installment is the  
13 excess, if any, of (i) an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the tax for the  
14 taxable year computed by placing on an annualized basis the taxable income for months  
15 in the taxable year ending before the due date for the installment, over (ii) the aggregate  
16 amount of any prior required installments for the taxable year. The taxable income shall  
17 be placed on an annualized basis under rules prescribed by the Secretary. The applicable  
18 percentages for the required installments are as follows:

- 19           (1) First installment – twenty-two and one-half percent (22.5%);  
20           (2) Second installment – forty-five percent (45%);  
21           (3) Third installment – sixty-seven and one-half percent (67.5%); and  
22           (4) Fourth installment – ninety percent (90%).

23           (f) No addition to the tax shall be imposed under subsection (a) if the tax shown  
24 on the return for the taxable year reduced by the tax withheld under ~~Article 4A~~this Article  
25 is less than the amount set in section 6654(e) of the Code or if the individual did not have  
26 any liability for tax under Division II of Article 4 for the preceding taxable year.

27           (g) For purposes of this section, the term 'tax' means the tax imposed by Division  
28 II of Article 4 minus the credits against the tax allowed by ~~Article 4~~this Chapter other  
29 than the credit allowed by this Article. The amount of the credit allowed under ~~Article 4A~~  
30 this Article for withheld income tax for the taxable year is considered a payment of  
31 estimated tax, and an equal part of that amount is considered to have been paid on each  
32 due date of the taxable year, unless the taxpayer establishes the dates on which all  
33 amounts were actually withheld, in which case the amounts so withheld are considered  
34 payments of estimated tax on the dates on which ~~such~~the amounts were actually  
35 withheld.

36           (h) If, on or before January 31 of the following taxable year, the taxpayer files a  
37 return for the taxable year and pays in full the amount computed on the return as payable,  
38 no addition to tax shall be imposed under subsection (a) with respect to any  
39 underpayment of the fourth required installment for the taxable year.

40           (i) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, an individual who is a  
41 farmer or fisherman for a taxable year is required to make only one installment payment  
42 of tax for that year. This installment is due on or before January 15 of the following

1 taxable year but may be paid without penalty or interest on or before March 1 of that  
2 year. The amount of the installment payment shall be the lesser of:

- 3 (1) Sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the tax shown on the  
4 return for the taxable year, or, if no return is filed, sixty-six and two-  
5 thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the tax for that year; or  
6 (2) One hundred percent (100%) of the tax shown on the return of the  
7 individual for the preceding taxable year, if the preceding taxable year  
8 was a taxable year of 12 months and the individual filed a return for that  
9 year.

10 An individual is a farmer or fisherman for any taxable year if the individual's gross  
11 income from farming or fishing, including oyster farming, for the taxable year is at least  
12 sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the total gross income from all sources for  
13 the taxable year, or the individual's gross income from farming or fishing, including  
14 oyster farming, shown on the return of the individual for the preceding taxable year is at  
15 least sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the total gross income from all sources  
16 shown on the return.

17 (j) In applying this section to a taxable year beginning on any date other than  
18 January 1, there shall be substituted, for the months specified in this section, the months  
19 that correspond thereto. This section shall be applied to taxable years of less than 12  
20 months in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary.

21 (k) This section shall not apply to any estate or trust.

22 **"§ 105-163.16. Overpayment refunded.**

23 If the amount of wages or compensation withheld at the source under ~~G.S. 105-163.2~~  
24 this Article exceeds the tax imposed by Article 4 of this Chapter against which the  
25 withheld tax is credited under G.S. 105-163.10, the excess is considered an overpayment  
26 by the ~~employee~~ employee or contractor. If the amount of estimated tax paid under G.S.  
27 105-163.15 exceeds the taxes imposed by Article 4 of this Chapter against which the  
28 estimated tax is credited under the provisions of this Article, the excess is considered an  
29 overpayment by the taxpayer. An overpayment shall be refunded as provided in Article 9  
30 of this Chapter.

31 ~~"§ 105b The provisions of Article 9 of this Chapter apply to the amount of State~~  
32 ~~income taxes this Article requires an employer to withhold and pay to the~~  
33 ~~Secretary.~~

34 ~~"§ 105 The Secretary is hereby authorized to prescribe forms and make all rules~~  
35 ~~and regulations which he deems necessary in order to achieve effective~~  
36 ~~and efficient enforcement of this Article.~~

37 "§ 105-163.19 to 105-163.21. **Repealed by Session Laws 1967, c. 1110, s. 4.**

38 **"§ 105-163.22. Reciprocity.**

39 The Secretary ~~of Revenue~~ may, with the approval of the Attorney General, enter into  
40 agreements with the taxing authorities of states having income tax withholding statutes  
41 with such agreements to govern the amounts to be withheld from the wages and salaries  
42 of residents of such other state or states under the provisions of this Article when such  
43 other state or states grant similar treatment to the residents of this State. Such agreements

1 may provide for recognition of the anticipated tax credits allowed under the provisions of  
2 G.S. 105-151 in determining the amounts to be withheld.

3 **"§ 105-163.23. Withholding from federal employees.**

4 The Secretary of Revenue ~~is hereby~~ is designated as the proper official to make request  
5 for and enter into agreements with the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to  
6 provide for the compliance with this Article by the head of each department or agency of  
7 the United States in withholding of State income taxes from wages of federal employees  
8 and paying the same to this State. The Secretary is ~~hereby~~ authorized, ~~empowered~~  
9 empowered, and directed to ~~make request for~~ request and enter into ~~such~~ these agreements.

10 **"§ 105-163.24. Construction of Article.**

11 This Article shall be liberally construed in pari materia with Article 4 of this Chapter  
12 to the end that taxes levied by Article 4 shall be collected with respect to wages and  
13 compensation by withholding ~~from wages by employers' agents'~~ withholding of the  
14 appropriate amounts ~~herein provided for~~ and by individuals' payments in installments ~~by~~  
15 ~~individuals~~ of income tax with respect to income ~~other than wages.~~ not subject to  
16 withholding."

17 Section 3. Section 1 of this act is effective when this act becomes law. The  
18 remainder of this act becomes effective January 1, 1998.