

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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SENATE DRS85284-LG-204 (05/10)

Short Title: Neuse Regional Water & Sewer Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Kerr and Albertson.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE NEUSE REGIONAL WATER AND
3 SEWER AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW REGIONAL
4 WATER SUPPLY TREATMENT PLANT.

5 Whereas, the Neuse Regional Water and Sewer Authority was formed to
6 pursue a regional water supply solution in response to declining groundwater
7 availability in the Cretaceous aquifers; and

8 Whereas, under the new Central Coastal Plan Capacity Use Area (CCPCUA)
9 rules, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources will limit withdrawals
10 from the Cretaceous aquifer system beginning in 2008; and

11 Whereas, the Neuse Regional Water and Sewer Authority has plans for a
12 regional water project consisting of a new water treatment plant on the Neuse River and
13 distribution infrastructure to convey finished water from the treatment plant to local
14 water supply systems in the Lenoir County and Pitt County regions; and

15 Whereas, the regional water supply project will provide a reliable, high
16 quality water supply to meet the needs of existing customers; reduce the region's
17 reliance on groundwater aquifers as a water supply source; allow the member utilities to
18 comply with reductions in the withdrawals of groundwater from aquifers; benefit
19 low-income and moderate-income communities by helping to provide sources of
20 employment through the provisions of affordable, stable sources of water that will help
21 attract new industries and help retain existing businesses; and during construction, boost
22 the local economy by creating skilled-labor construction jobs; and

23 Whereas, State funding is needed to allow the project to proceed on schedule;
24 Now, therefore,

25 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

26 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Neuse
27 Regional Water and Sewer Authority the sum of thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000)

1 for the 2004-2005 fiscal year for the construction of a new regional water supply
2 treatment plant.

3 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.