



1           **SECTION 2.** Membership. –The Commission shall consist of 16 members  
2 as follows:

- 3           (1) Five members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- 4           (2) Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
5           Representatives.
- 6           (3) The State Treasurer or the State Treasurer's designee.
- 7           (4) The Director of the Governor's Policy Office or the Director's  
8           designee.
- 9           (5) The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources or the  
10          Secretary's designee.
- 11          (6) Three representatives from the public at large appointed by the  
12          Governor.

13           **SECTION 3.** Cochairs. – The Commission shall have two cochairs, one  
14 designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one designated by the  
15 Speaker of the House of Representatives from among their respective appointees. The  
16 Commission shall meet upon the call of the cochairs.

17           **SECTION 4.** Quorum. – A quorum of the Commission shall consist of nine  
18 members.

19           **SECTION 5.** Vacancies. – Any vacancy on the Commission shall be filled  
20 by the original appointing authority.

21           **SECTION 6.** Purpose and Duties. – The Commission shall:

- 22           (1) Identify and evaluate the existing sources of State funding for: (i) the  
23           public acquisition of land or interests in land to protect drinking water  
24           quality and prevent polluted runoff, conserve rivers, wetlands,  
25           floodplains, coastal waters, working farms, working forests, local  
26           parks, State parks, game lands and other natural areas, urban forests,  
27           and land visible from scenic highways in North Carolina; (ii) historic  
28           preservation; and (iii) economic and community development tied to  
29           land and water conservation and historic preservation.
- 30           (2) Collect research and information from North Carolina and other states  
31           and jurisdictions regarding incentive based techniques and  
32           management tools used to protect land and water and assess the  
33           applicability of such tools and techniques to land conservation in  
34           North Carolina.
- 35           (3) Prepare a draft report with a statement of the issues, a summary of the  
36           research, and recommendations to address funding needs and other  
37           issues affecting land and water conservation in North Carolina.
- 38           (4) Hold at least three public meetings, including at least one meeting in  
39           the Mountains, Piedmont, and the Coastal Plain region of the State to  
40           present the draft report and recommendations to the public and user  
41           groups.

42           **SECTION 7.** Expenses of Members. – Members of the Commission shall  
43 receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1,  
44 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

1           **SECTION 8.** Staff. – Upon the prior approval of the Legislative Services  
2 Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional staff to the  
3 Commission to aid in its work.

4           **SECTION 9.** Consultants. – The Commission may hire consultants to assist  
5 with the study as provided in G.S. 120-32.02(b).

6           **SECTION 10.** Meetings. – The Commission may meet in the Legislative  
7 Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative  
8 Services Commission.

9           **SECTION 11.** Report. – The Commission shall report its findings and  
10 recommendations to the General Assembly and the Environmental Review Commission  
11 on or before 1 February 2007, at which time the Commission shall terminate.

12           **SECTION 12.** Funding. – From funds appropriated to the General  
13 Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission shall allocate funds for the purpose of  
14 conducting the study provided for in this act.

15           **SECTION 13.** Effective Date. – This act is effective when it becomes law.