

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 111

Short Title: Citizen Water Quality Monitoring.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Perdue; and Odom.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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February 13, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A CITIZEN WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

**"§ 143-215A. Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program.**

The Department shall establish a Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program to provide an avenue for individuals to play a role in and to take personal responsibility for protecting the State's water quality. The goals of the Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program are to coordinate monitoring activities among volunteers by river basins; to provide adequate training of volunteers and quality assurance of all data collected; to establish a comprehensive data collection system that supplements the State's data; to incorporate the data collected by volunteers into the State's overall management of water quality; and to provide access of the data to the public through a centralized database located in the Center for Marine Science and Technology."

Section 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, Division of Water Quality, the sum of five hundred eighty-seven thousand, seven hundred and one dollars (\$587,701) in recurring

1 funds for the 1997-98 fiscal year and the sum of five hundred eighty-seven thousand,  
2 seven hundred and one dollars (\$587,701) in recurring funds for the 1998-99 fiscal year  
3 to implement and cover operating costs of the Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program  
4 and to provide four staff positions for the Program.

5           Section 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997.