

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2025**

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**HOUSE BILL 41**

Short Title: Lincoln/Catawba Common Boundary Line. (Local)

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Sponsors: Representative Rhyne.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

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Referred to: Judiciary 1, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

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February 5, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO KEEP THE COMMON BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN LINCOLN COUNTY  
2 AND CATAWBA COUNTY AS THE CURRENTLY RECOGNIZED COMMON  
3 BOUNDARY LINE THAT IS USED BY THE COUNTIES FOR TAXATION PURPOSES  
4 AND REFLECTED IN THE COUNTIES' GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
5 MAPS.  
6

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** The legal boundary line between Lincoln County and Catawba County  
9 shall be the recognized common boundary line used by Lincoln County and Catawba County for  
10 taxation purposes and reflected in the counties' geographic information systems maps.

11 **SECTION 2.** Any completed county boundary survey delivered by the North  
12 Carolina Geodetic Survey in accordance with Article 3 of Chapter 153A of the General Statutes  
13 in 2024 that is not consistent with Section 1 of this act shall not be binding upon Lincoln County  
14 and Catawba County and shall not be used by Lincoln County or Catawba County as a common  
15 boundary between the counties.

16 **SECTION 3.** Notwithstanding any provision of Article 3 of Chapter 153A of the  
17 General Statutes, not later than 42 months after the date this act becomes effective, North  
18 Carolina Geodetic Survey (NCGS) or its contractors shall locate, survey, mark, and map the  
19 boundary line described in Section 1 of this act in the manner provided in G.S. 153A-18. Lincoln  
20 County shall pay the full cost of the work performed by NCGS or its contractors. Upon  
21 completion of the survey, NCGS shall cause the survey plat to be recorded in the office of the  
22 register of deeds of each county in the manner provided by law for the recordation of maps or  
23 plats and in the Secretary of State's office.

24 **SECTION 4.** On and after the effective date of this act, all papers, documents, and  
25 instruments required or permitted to be filed or registered related to residents or property shall  
26 be filed in the county in which the property is located pursuant to the boundary described in  
27 Section 1 of this act despite the fact that papers, documents, and instruments required or permitted  
28 to be filed or registered with respect to such residents or property may have been previously  
29 recorded in the other county.

30 **SECTION 5.** All public records related to residents and property located in areas  
31 affected by the establishment of the boundary line in Section 1 of this act that were filed or  
32 recorded prior to the effective date of this act in the adjoining county shall remain in the  
33 respective adjoining county where filed or recorded, and such records shall be valid public  
34 records as to the property and persons involved, even though they are recorded in an adjoining



1 county where the property is not located as evidenced by the boundary described in Section 1 of  
2 this act.

3       **SECTION 6.** The establishment of a county boundary line is, pursuant to Section 1  
4 of Article VII of the North Carolina Constitution, the responsibility of the General Assembly.  
5 Further, it is vital to the State of North Carolina and all affected local governments that county  
6 boundary lines be fixed and any uncertainty as to the location of county boundary lines be  
7 resolved. For this reason and in the interest of justice, neither Lincoln County nor Catawba  
8 County, nor any agent, employee, or appointed or elected official thereof, shall be liable to any  
9 individual, group, organization, for-profit or not-for-profit business entity of any kind, or  
10 governmental entity or agency of any type or kind for any damages, costs, fees, or fines, and no  
11 court action shall be maintained against said counties, officials, employees, and agents for any  
12 recommendation, act, failure to act, or conduct related to the provisions of this act and/or the  
13 adoption of a fixed boundary line separating the two counties. Lincoln County and Catawba  
14 County and their officials, employees, and agents are released from all liability for any claims  
15 made, and no court action shall be maintained against said officials, employees, and agents for  
16 any act or failure to act pursuant to the terms of this act.

17       **SECTION 7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.