Report of the

House Special Fact Finding

Subcommittee on

Agriculture

to

The Honorable Liston B. Ramsey, Speaker

North Carolina House of Representatives

Representative Bobby R. Etheridge Chairman

LEGISLATITE LIBRARY

Library
State Legislative Building
Morth Carolina

5 97 -57 A4 1987 C.A

State of North Carolina

House of Representatives

HOUSE SPECIAL FACT-FINDING SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

619 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

RALEIGH 27611



REP BORBY R ETHERIDGE CHAIRMAN REP WILLIAM T WATKINS VICE CHAIRMAN

February 9, 1987

FRED AIKENS DOUG CARTER L CAROL SHAW STAFF (919) 733-4910

The House Special Fact-Finding Subcommittee on Agriculture herewith reports to the Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, as requested, having met nine times in an effort to determine the agricultural needs of the farmers of North Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Bob B. Etheridge

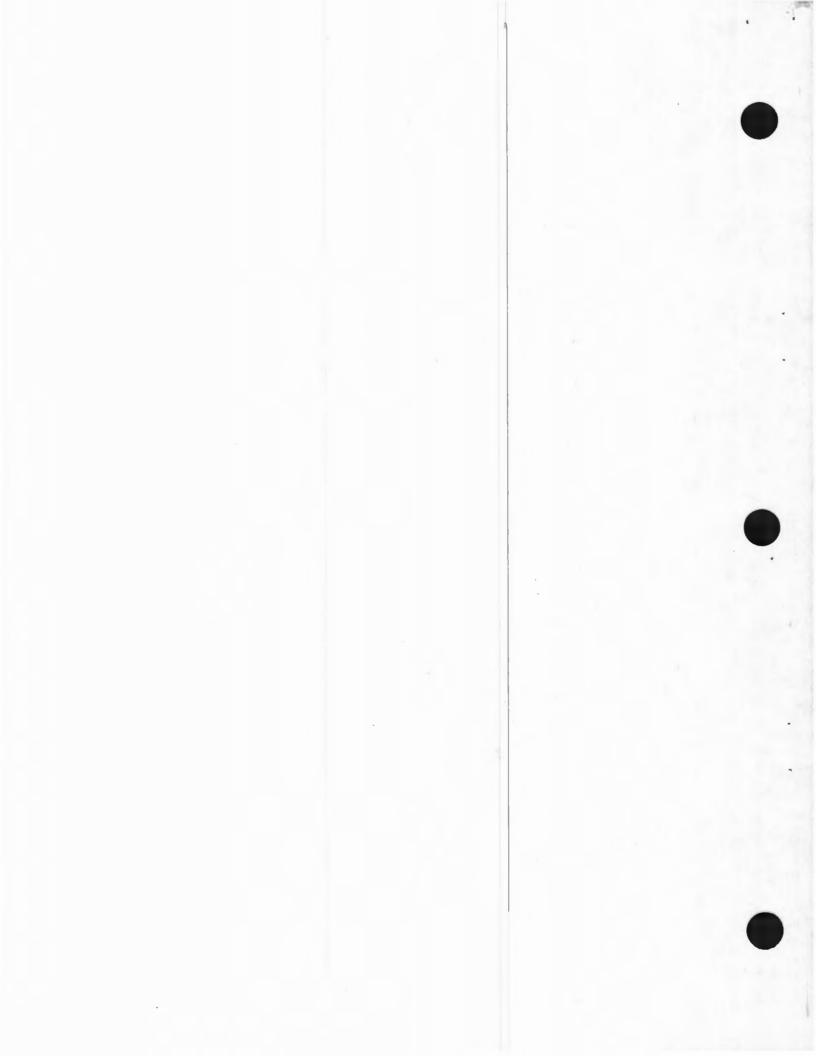
Chairman

		•
		-
		•

Report Outline

I.	Executive Summary	i	
II.	Introduction	1	
III.	Subcommittee Proceedings	4	
IV.	Summary of Meetings	8	
v.	Findings	13	
VI.	Recommendations	19	
ADDENDICES			

- 1 Membership List
- 2 Draft HJR to the 100th Congress
- 3 Draft Legislation to REPEAL OBSOLETE AGRICULTURE STATUTES



HOUSE SPECIAL FACT FINDING SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Subcommittee recommends that:

- (1) The 1987 General Assembly clarify eligibility criteria of the Agricultural Facilities Finance Act to more clearly characterize the type of farmer to be assisted, the maximum amount and type of assistance to be provided, and repayment terms. In addition, the General Assembly is urged to elevate this item to the top of its 1987 agenda, consider exempting the Act from the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, and provide an increased level of funding to the Authority to cover administrative expenses;
- (2) The North Carolina Agricultural Cost-Share program be continued and that expansion of the program statewide be studied at the General Assembly's earliest opportunity;
- (3) The Department of Commerce be directed to strengthen its efforts to recruit agricultural related industries and market North Carolina agricultural products;
- (4) The Department of commerce and Agriculture be directed to jointly develop an inventory of North Carolina agricultural products with the potential for export, identify markets for these products, and develop an aggressive marketing plan for export of such products.
- (5) The Departments of Agriculture and Commerce be directed to identify agricultural related equipment needed at the State Ports to help in the movement of various agricultural products;
- (6) The Department of Agriculture and School of Agriculture at N.C. State University be encouraged to identify and conduct additional basic research efforts to increase their knowledge of the poultry immunity system and its effects on the growth and development of broilers and turkeys;
- (7) The poultry and swine industries in Eastern North Carolina be encouraged to expand operations in-state and increase export to other markets, where economically feasible;
- (8) The 1987 General Assembly enact a resolution to the 100th Congress addressing various provisions included in the 1985 Farm Bill and foreclosure procedures of the Farmers' Home Administration;

- (9) The General Assembly strongly encourage private sector lending institutions to continue their support and active participation in providing financial assistance to the agricultural sector and study the feasibility of linked State deposit programs to provide additional assistance to farmers, if the financial crisis in farming continues.
- (10) The General Assembly appropriate additional funds to the Department of Agriculture to develop an agricultural economic model that has the capability to more adequately predict economic outcomes for the agricultural sector under various situations.

Introduction

On January 10, 1986, The Honorable Liston B. Ramsey, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, appointed a Subcommittee to examine the problems experienced by North Carolina farmers. Speaker Ramsey was fully aware of agriculture's economic importance to the North Carolina economy. For example, it has been estimated that North Carolina agriculture generates in excess of \$4 billion at the farm gate level. By the time the full impact of the supply and processing sectors are included, between \$15 and \$16 billion may be generated in North Carolina due to the production of agricultural products. In addition, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Food and Fiber System in North Carolina, which involves production, processing, transportation, retailing, preparing, and serving farm based products, provides jobs for approximately 32% of the labor force. Consequently, Speaker Ramsey felt an urgent need to study the economic conditions of the State's farmers and identify specific areas to be addressed by State government. The Subcommittee was given the following specific tasks:

- (1) to determine the research, production, marketing, and financing needs of all agricultural products produced in North Carolina;
- (2) to determine actions that can be taken by State government to assist the agricultural sector of the State's economy and especially the citizens engaged in farming.

Speaker Ramsey acknowledged that many studies had been made pertaining to a few agricultural products produced in North Carolina but felt a need to request that the Subcommittee review the overall picture from the mountains to the sea. Speaker Ramsey was deeply concerned that North Carolina's most traditional industry, an industry that led North Carolina for many decades through the 1940s, was experiencing numerous problems beyond its immediate control. Representative Bobby R. Etheridge of Lillington was appointed as Chairman and Representative William T. Watkins of Oxford as Vice Chairman.

Speaker Ramsey's appointment of the House Special Fact
Finding Subcommittee on Agriculture coincided with an
ever-increasing need for State governments to assess their
participation in the setting of agriculture policy and efforts
to maintain a viable State farm economy. The appointment of

this Subcommittee was in addition to several other legislative, executive, and private groups established to study various aspects of the agricultural situation and develop solutions to help farmers. Some of these groups are identified in the matrix below:

Agriculture Study Groups

Group	Appointing Authority A	<u>Date</u> uthorized	Member- ship	<u>Issues</u> Addressed
Agriculture, Forestry & Seafood Aware- ness Study Commission	General Assembly	8-1-83	16	Marketing Research & new product development Farm finance
NC Commission on Jobs & Economic Growth	Lieutenant Governor	7-1-85	30	Labor force develop. Jobs develop. Rural development
Legislative Subcommittee on Tobacco	Speaker & Lt. Governor	8-27-85	10	NC Tobacco Industry's need to pre- sent united front on fed. tobacco legis.
Farm Finance Task Force	Governor	10-20-86	12	Links finance organizations with farmers who need ass- istance in meeting debts
NC Conference of the United Methodist Church	Private	6-1-85	14	Collect private funds through Methodist Ch. to assist farmers who are experiencing financial difficulties

A common theme among all groups appeared to revolve around the perception that agriculture was in severe financial difficulty. This difficulty also carried over into the agribusiness industry as farm communities have seen the closing of many farm equipment dealers.

Subcommittee Proceedings

The Subcommittee held a total of nine meetings in an effort to solicit input from a variety of sources, determine problems, and offer solutions to address the problems experienced by the agricultural sector. Sources included large and small farmers, the agribusiness community, private agriculture groups, financial and educational institutions, and government agencies. Two of the meetings were held in Eastern and Piedmont North Carolina to gather information directly from those involved in agriculture and to make the Subcommittee more accessible to farmers.

The Subcommittee understood the major impact of federal policy on agriculture, but was determined to review a series of topics designed to clearly delineate actions that could be

taken by State government to alleviate the farm crisis in North Carolina. With heavy emphasis on the "Fact Finding" nature of the Subcommittee, the following topics were initially identified for review by the Subcommittee:

- (1) an attempt to identify agricultural products produced in North Carolina and determine their disposition (where processed, how marketed, and where sold);
- (2) a review of the duties and responsibilities of the NC Department of Agriculture (regulatory duties, direct assistance, coordinative and advocacy responsibilities) and an inventory of North Carolina agricultural policy;
- (3) a review of historical and traditional roles of various State and federal agencies and how those roles could be altered to meet the changing needs of farmers;
- (4) a review of efforts of other State agencies such as the State Ports Authority, University System, Division of Forest Resources, Biotechnology Center, and the NC Department of Commerce;
- (5) an inventory review of tax incentives for those involved in the agriculture industry;

- (6) identifying problems of farmers;
- (7) techniques to assist farmers including marketing and modifications to the Agriculture Facilities Finance

At the first Subcommittee meeting, Chairman Etheridge reiterated the Subcommittee's charge and cited some very alarming statistics concerning the loss of farms in North Carolina. He stated that the number of farms in North Carolina declined by 30,000 from 1975 to 1985 from 105,000 farms to 75,000 and that net farm income showed no real growth during the same time period. From a national standpoint, however, North Carolina ranked very high in several commodities including tobacco, sweet potatoes, turkeys, farm forest products, poultry, peanuts, hogs, apples, and peaches.

Chairman Etheridge further tasked the Subcommittee to examine the State's current efforts in agriculture, determine what additional efforts (if any) were needed to assist the agricultural community, or determine if existing resources could be redirected for better utilization.

The Subcommittee heard testimony from numerous State officials who administer programs that directly and indirectly impact the agricultural industry. Jim Graham, Commissioner of Agriculture, was asked to share his thoughts on the farm

situation. Dr. Durwood F. Bateman, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State

University, was asked to brief the Subcommittee on assistance provided by the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences to the farming community. The NC Department of Commerce, the State's principal industrial recruitment and development agency, was asked to brief the Subcommittee on Commerce Department efforts to recruit agriculture-related industries to the State and market North Carolina products for export to other states and nations. During the presentations by Commerce officials, the Subcommittee was informed of the importance of the State Ports Authority in the movement of North Carolina agricultural products and the import of foreign agricultural products.

The Subcommittee was fully cognizant of the limited, but evolving, role of State government in the setting of agriculture policy, and felt strongly that government, business, and political leaders in North Carolina had an obligation to assess the current farm crisis and take appropriate steps to arrest the decline of the agricultural sector of our State economy. To make the Subcommittee more aware of the important role undertaken by various federal government agencies, the Subcommittee invited and heard

Administration and John Cooper, State Director of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service. These two federal agencies account for most of the direct federal assistance to the farming community.

Summary of Meetings

As summarized by Chairman Etheridge, some of the remarks made at the first meeting suggested the following problems faced farmers:

- (1) increased production and price competition from other countries in the world market;
- (2) oversupply of farm products nationally and internationally;
- (3) lack of a coherent federal farm policy to address the many problems facing farmers;
- (4) loss of federal funds on programs that assist farmers;
- (5) lack of adequate transportation for movement of agricultural products.

Recognizing that items 1-4 above were clearly under the domain of the federal government, the Subcommittee continued its push to identify steps North Carolina could take to help arrest the difficulty currently experienced by the State's most traditional industry. The Subcommittee reviewed the statutory

responsibilities of state agencies involved in establishing agricultural policies and was briefed on current State tax advantages directed toward farming. A survey on the financial status of North Carolina farmers conducted by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture was presented to the Subcommittee. The survey, conducted during the first three months of 1986, indicated that 20% of North Carolina's farmers faced moderate to extreme financial hardship, that 7.8% of all farmers had a 70% or greater debt-to-asset ratio, that another 11.4% of farmers were in the 40-69% debt-to-asset ratio category experiencing moderate to severe financial difficulties and could be pushed out of farming, and that 42% of farmers lost money on their farming operations in 1985.

Off-farm income also appeared to be an important element to farm families with the average North Carolina farmer reporting off-farm income of \$9,877. The wife contributed 40% of this total. The off-farm income indicator points to a more pronounced need for industrial and economic development in the rural areas of North Carolina.

In addition to the survey conducted by the NC Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Extension Service of the North Carolina State University, School of Agriculture and Life Sciences presented a county-by-county report on the current agricultural situation to the Subcommittee. While the report tended to support many of the financial distress statistics

of the State, where major crops of soybeans, corn, and wheat were under intensive price pressure from surplus products.

Tobacco and peanuts were less profitable than in previous years. The Piedmont area was the next hardest hit area of the State in agricultural income with the diversity of agricultural production in the mountains giving that region a plus.

To determine private sector financing efforts and options to help alleviate financial distress among farmers, the Subcommittee solicited the input of the North Carolina Bankers Association. The point was clearly made that the agriculture industry is "big business" and a large user of credit.

Consequently, lending institutions (private and government owned) must make a stronger commitment to understanding the changing needs of the agribusiness industry and take steps to help preserve this vital part of our State economy.

After hearing so much testimony on the problems facing agriculture in North Carolina at meetings held in Raleigh, the Subcommittee decided to conduct two field trips to Eastern and Piedmont North Carolina. These trips were designed to gather information directly from those involved in agriculture and to make the Subcommittee more accessible to those in the farming business. The Subcommittee was very well received at each visit.

The first field trip, hosted by Representative Wendell Murphy and Dr. Carl Price, was held at James Sprunt Community College in Duplin County. At this meeting, the Subcommittee was advised that several bright spots exist in agriculture in Duplin County, and possibly other areas of the State. The concept of "contract farming" in the production of live turkeys and hogs was discussed by Mr. S. J. Faison, Jr., President of Carroll's Foods, Inc. Mr. Faison suggested "contract farming" as an opportunity for farmers to make a profit while taking little risks, maintaining a positive cash flow, and working on a part-time basis.

In addition to hearing from representatives of Lundy
Packing Company in Clinton and Nash Johnson and Sons Farm, Inc.
of Rose Hill, two major agricultural operations in Eastern
North Carolina, the Subcommittee toured Lundy Packing Company
and Carolina Turkeys in Faison. The speakers and both tours,
in particular, provided the Subcommittee with first-hand
knowledge of the financial impact of agriculture in Eastern
North Carolina and throughout the State.

The Subcommittee made its second field trip to Reidsville,
North Carolina, in November 1986, hosted by Representative
Robert McAlister. Many speakers were heard and the
Subcommittee was again provided with a lot of information
concerning the local agricultural situation. At best, the

Subcommittee's trip to this part of the State showed mixed results with diversity being evident among some farmers but a steady decline in the number of farmers. The livestock and horticultural industries are examples of diversity evident in the Piedmont region.

The Subcommittee toured three farms in the area, one in Rockingham County, one in Stokes County, and one in Guilford County. Again, diversity was evident and at each of the three farm operations visited, Subcommittee members were very impressed with the potential for horticultural crops and nurseries close to urban areas.

Due to time constraints, the Subcommittee did not visit western North Carolina. Much testimony was heard concerning the diversity of agriculture and financial conditions of farmers in western North Carolina. While farmers in western North Carolina appear to be better off financially than those in other parts of the State, problems do exist. Diversity of agricultural production, particularly new enterprises of ornamentals, Christmas trees and vegetables, helped mitigate other losses suffered by mountain farmers.

Subcommittee Findings and Recommendations

Findings

After much study and testimony, the Subcommittee makes the following findings:

- (1) The federal government continues, and rightly so, to be the dominant actor in the setting of agricultural policy, despite the evolving role of State governments.
- (2) Federal policy, domestic and foreign, however, appears to be incoherent and does not adequately address current difficulties experienced by many farmers. For example, U.S. trade assistance policy, general agreements on tariffs and trade encourages foreign countries to produce more corn and sell it at a lower price than offered by U.S. farmers. In addition, the Immigration Bill recently enacted may adversely affect North Carolina farmers. This lack of coherence tends to adversely impact the agricultural economy of North Carolina.

- (3) The U.S. Congress, in enacting the 1985 Farm Bill, mandated several provisions encouraging the reduction of soil erosion and the retention of wetlands. Under these provisions, farmers who continue to till crops on highly erosive land or convert naturally occurring wetlands must develop a conservation plan by January 1, 1990 and implement the plan by January 1, 1995. Failure to implement these plans could mean the loss of eligibility for U.S.D.A. program benefits including price supports. No funding was provided to assist farmers in complying with these provisions. While this program is similar to the N.C. Agricultural Cost Share program, the two programs have different priorities. The state program is directed toward eliminating non-point source pollution and improving water quality. The federal program emphasizes improving highly erosive farmland or taking it out of production.
- (4) State governments are becoming more actively involved with agriculture in an effort to maintain a viable state agriculture economy. This is readily apparent in North Carolina as witnessed by the numerous groups seeking ways to help farmers and maintain our agriculture economy.

- (5) North Carolina continues its strong support of agriculture and fully recognizes agriculture's economic impact on North Carolina's economy. This is witnessed by legislative enactment and funding support of the following programs:
 - a. The NC Agriculture Finance Act was enacted in 1984 and modified in 1986 to conform to changes in federal law that adversely affected the 1984 North Carolina Act. A \$1 million appropriation was provided to implement the Act. The Act is intended to financially assist farmers. However, to date no assistance has been provided.
 - b. The North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share

 Program. This program was expanded by the 1986

 General Assembly from \$2.2 million in 85-86 to

 \$3.2 million in 1986-87. This program provides

 cost share funds to farmers to implement best

 management practices designed to control non

 point source pollution. The program is available
 in 33 counties.
 - c. The establishment of the North and Southeast Farmers' markets. An expansion appropriation of \$1.85 million was made to each market. In

addition, continuing appropriations were made to the western North Carolina Farmers Market, the Raleigh Farmers Market, and both Livestock Arenas.

- d. Sales exemption tax for livestock and poultry construction (SB 488/Chapter 973).
- e. Additional funds for improvements to Agriculture Research Stations.
- f. Additional funds for improvements to the Livestock complexes.
- g. The Farmland Preservation Act was enacted to encourage counties to preserve farmland. Under the law, any county, by ordinance, can establish a farmland preservation program.
- (6) The family farm appears to be in a state of transition, and government and business leaders must take strong measures to insure the survival of this most traditional way of life.
- (7) The marketing and export of North Carolina agricultural products must be improved significantly. In addition to the Department of Agriculture, the

Department of Commerce, through its industrial development efforts and the movement of goods through the State Ports, is an important participant in the marketing and export of North Carolina agricultural products.

- (8) Tobacco, too, appears to be in a state of transition, but continues to be a vital part of the North Carolina farm economy. Efforts to replace tobacco with similar income-generating crops will be difficult.
- (9) Poultry and swine operations in North Carolina are generating a tremendous, positive, financial impact on the agricultural economy in this State. These types of operations also have the potential to expand because of the favorable climate for livestock production in North Carolina.
- (10) Lending institutions have always played a critical role in the State's economy, and these institutions have been very supportive of the agribusiness industry. However, lending institutions must become more keenly aware of present difficulties of those involved in the agribusiness industry and help seek solutions to maintaining a viable farm economy. The support, patience, and understanding of the banking

industry cannot be overemphasized. As alluded to in the Haywood County section of the Agricultural Extension Service Report to this Subcommittee, when sufficient numbers of farmers stop farming as a way of life, the likely result is that agribusinesses (farm machinery dealerships, farm supply businesses, and other small businesses serving the farm community) will also dwindle in number and size.

- (11) Agricultural research has been adequately funded at North Carolina's institutions and research facilities. However, additional basic research efforts on the poultry immunity system may be needed because very little is known about how the poultry immunity system affects the growth and development of turkeys and broilers.
- (12) Certain facilities to aid in the export of agricultural products might be needed at North Carolina's ports.

Recommendations

The North Carolina General Assembly should be proud of the agricultural accomplishments made over the last several years, but more importantly, strive to continue the strong support we've traditionally provided this important element of our State's economy. Consequently, to address the Subcommittee's findings and other elements of the report, the following recommendations are offered:

- enacted in 1984 by the North Carolina General
 Assembly, but due to various problems, the Act has not yet been implemented. The Subcommittee recommends that the 1987 General Assembly clarify eligibility criteria to more clearly characterize the type of farmer to be assisted, the maximum amount and type of assistance to be provided, and repayment terms. In addition, the Subcommittee:
 - a. urges the General Assembly to elevate this issue to the top of its 1987 agenda and to consider exempting the Act temporarily from the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

- b. recommends that the budget of the Authority be increased by \$100,000 to cover additional administrative expenses necessary to more adequately implement the program.
- c. recommends that the 1987 General Assembly set the beginning salary of the Authority's Executive Director at \$60,000.
- Still a relatively new program, the North Carolina
 Agricultural Cost Share Program is very beneficial to
 the citizens in communities where implemented,
 participant farmers, and other State citizens. The
 program is doing an effective job of reducing
 nonpoint source pollution due to agricultural runoff.
 The General Assembly should continue support of this
 program and study statewide expansion at its earliest
 opportunity. Expansion of this program should serve
 State needs, primarily, and be at a rate to
 effectively and efficiently expend State funds for
 the intended purposes.
- (3) As North Carolina's leading industrial development agency, the Department of Commerce should be directed

to strengthen its efforts to recruit agricultural related industries and market North Carolina agricultural products. The Department's past efforts are greatly appreciated, but a renewed, concentrated effort on the changing nature of North Carolina's agricultural economy must be made.

- (4) The Departments of Commerce and Agriculture should be directed to jointly develop an inventory of North Carolina agricultural products with the potential for export, identify markets for these products, and develop an aggressive marketing plan for export of such products. The State Ports Authority must be an integral part of this effort, also.
- (including the State Ports Authority) should be directed to identify agricultural related equipment now lacking but needed at the State Ports to help in the movement of various agricultural products. This equipment identification must be supported with appropriate justification and cost estimates. During the Subcommittee's proceedings, the Subcommittee was advised that a tripping machine and bagging facilities were needed for the movement of certain agricultural products through our State ports.

- (6) The North Carolina Departments of Agriculture and the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University should be encouraged to identify and conduct additional basic research efforts to increase their knowledge of the poultry immunity system and its effects on the growth and development of broilers and turkeys.
- (7) The poultry and swine industries in Eastern North

 Carolina are doing well and should be encouraged to

 expand operations in-state and increase exports to

 other markets, where economically feasible.
- (8) The 1987 General Assembly should enact a resolution to the 100th Congress that addresses the following issues:
 - a. Conservation provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill.

 These provisions, commonly referred to as the Conservation, Compliance, Sodbuster, and Swampbuster provisions, have serious implications for nearly every farmer in North Carolina. These provisions require that farmers who continue to till crops on highly erosive land or convert naturally occurring wetlands will develop a conservation plan by January 1, 1990 and implement the plan by January 1, 1995. Failure

to do so will mean the loss of USDA program benefits including price supports on all commodities.

- b. Farmers' Home Administration foreclosures. Every attempt must be made to refinance a farmer's loan payments before foreclosure action is taken.
- (9) The General Assembly should strongly encourage private sector lending institutions to continue their support and active participation in providing financial assistance to the agricultural sector. If the financial crisis in farming continues, the General Assembly should conduct a study to determine the feasibility of linked state deposit programs to provide additional assistance to farmers.
- Assembly provide funds to the North Carolina

 Department of Agriculture to develop an agricultural economic model that has the capability to more adequately predict economic outcomes for the agricultural sector under various situations. Costs are \$117,746 in 87-88 and \$99,607 in 88-89.



APPENDIX 1

HOUSE SPECIAL FACT-FINDING SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

All Members of the North Carolina House of Representatives:

Bob R. Etheridge, Chairman Box 295 Lillington, NC 27546 (919) 639-2248

William T. Watkins, Vice Chairman P. O. Box 247 Oxford, NC 27565 (919) 693-8161

Gerald L. Anderson P. O. Box 568 Bridgeton, NC 28519 (919) 633-2830

Charles M. Beall Route 3, Box 322 Clyde, NC 28721 (704) 627-2423

John W. Brown Route 2, Box 87 Elkin, NC 28621 (919) 835-2373

Harold J. Brubaker 138 Scarboro Street Asheboro, NC 27203 (919) 629-5128

Jeff H. Enloe, Jr. 137 Old Murphy Road Franklin, NC 28734 (704) 524-2632

Aaron E. Fussell 1201 Briar Patch Lane Raleigh, NC 27609 (919) 876-0240

Vernon G. James Route 4, Box 265 Elizabeth City, NC 27909 (919) 330-5561 Sidney A. Locks P.O. Box 290 Lumberton, NC 28358 (919) 739-7202

Edith L. Lutz Route 3, Box 197 Lawndale, NC 28090 (704) 538-7818

Robert L. McAlister Route 1, Box 336 Ruffin, NC 27326 (919) 939-9816

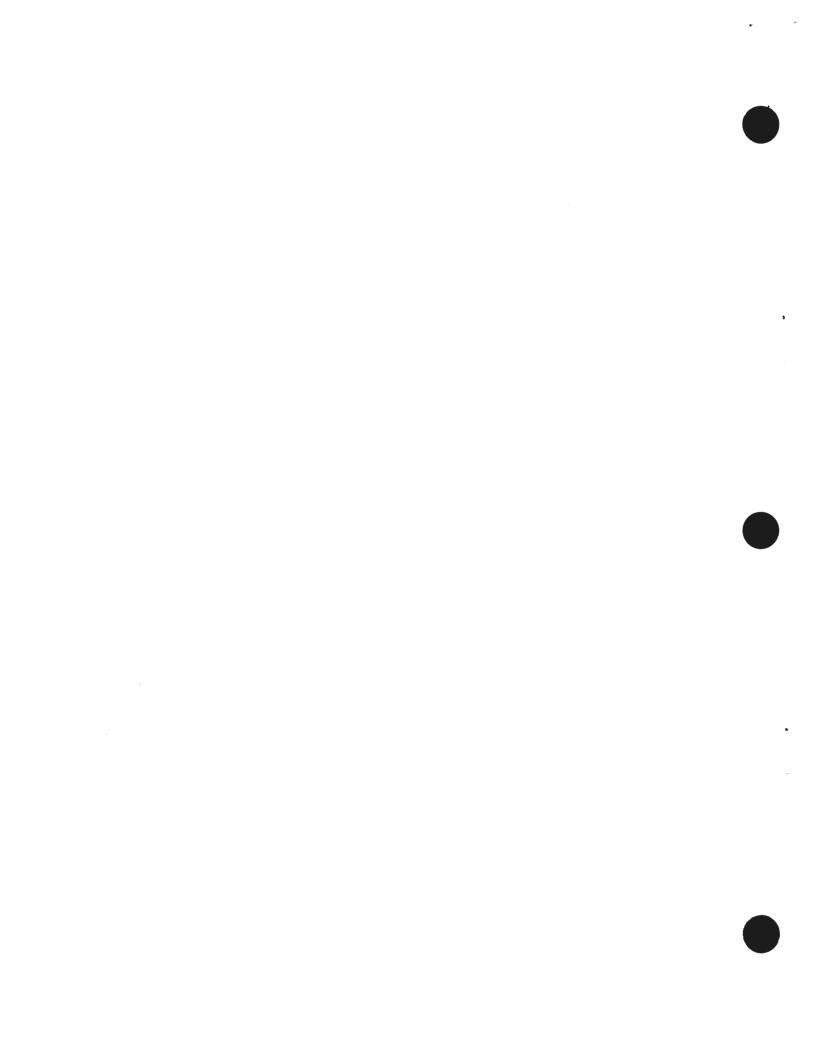
Wendell H. Murphy P. O. Box 759 Rose Hill, NC 28458 (919) 289-4128

Staff: Fiscal Research

Fred Aikens Doug Carter Carol Shaw (919) 733-4910

Clerk:

Mollie W. Prescott (919) 733-5477 (0) (919) 872-3191 (H)



APPENDIX 2

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 1987

H

D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 87RN/004 (RN) THIS IS A DRAFT February 6, 1987 4:30 p.m.

Sponsors: Representatives B. Etheridge, Watkins, Anderson, Beall, Brown, Brubaker, Enloe, Fussell, James, Locks, Lutz, McAlister, Murphy.

Referred to:

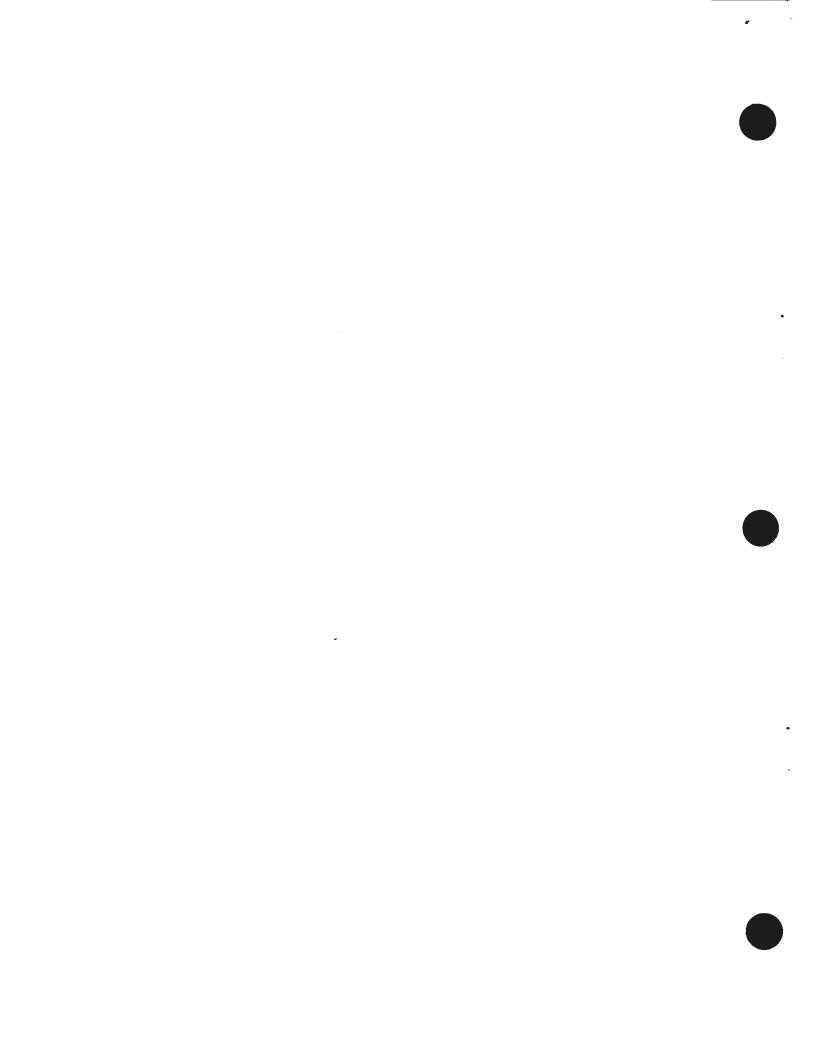
- 1 A JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ADDRESS THE PUNITIVE
- 2 PROVISIONS OF TITLE XII OF THE FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 1985 AND TO
- 3 CONSIDER LEGISLATION REQUIRING OR ENCOURAGING THE REFINANCING
- 4 OF FMHA FARM DEBTS PRIOR TO FORECLOSURE.
- 5 WHEREAS, Title XII of Public Law 99-198, the federal Food
- 6 Security Act of 1985 (the "Farm Bill"), requires farmers to
- 7 discontinue the production of crops on highly erodible land and
- 8 converted wetlands; and
- 9 WHEREAS, sections 1211 and 1221 of Title XII of said act
- 10 provide for the forfeiture, with respect to all crops, of the
- 11 following federal benefits for a farmer's failure to discontinue
- 12 the production of crops on highly erodible land and converted
- 13 wetlands:
- 14 (a) price supports and payments;
- (b) farm storage facility loans;
- 16 (c) crop insurance;
- 17 (d) disaster payments;
- (e) certain agricultural loans; and
- (f) payments made for the storage of agricultural
- 20 commodities acquired by the Commodity Credit

- 1 Corporation; and
- WHEREAS, the moratorium on farm foreclosures by the Farmer's
- 3 Home Administration (FmHA) has been lifted and the FmHA is
- 4 proceeding to foreclose mortgages on numerous farms throughout
- 5 North Carolina; and
- 6 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the North Carolina General
- 7 Assembly to encourage the United State Congress to formulate and
- 8 enact federal farm policies benefiting the farmer;
- 9 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the House of Representatives,
- 10 the Senate concurring:
- 11 Section 1. That the United States Congress be encouraged to
- 12 address the harsh, punitive provisions of Title XII of Public Law
- 13 99-198 providing for the loss of federal agricultural benefits
- 14 for farmers.
- 15 Sec. 2. That the United States Congress be encouraged to
- 16 consider legislation requiring or encouraging the Farmer's Home
- 17 Administration to make every attempt to refinance delinquent
- 18 loans before commencing foreclosure proceedings.
- 19 Sec. 3. That a copy of this joint resolution be transmitted to
- 20 each member of Congress representing North Carolina and to the
- 21 Chairman of the Agriculture Committee of each house of the
- 22 Congress.
- 23 Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

APPENDIX 3

OBSOLETE STATUTES IN CHAPTER 106 (AGRICULTURE) OF THE GENERAL STATUTES

	STATUTORY CITATION	SUBJECT	NTS
1.	106-20	Inoculating Culture for Leguminous Enacted inac	1913; tive.
2.	106-51	Certification of fertilizer Enacted laboratories inac	1933; tive.
3.	106-66, 106-67	Regulates sale of seed cotton and Enacted peanuts no longer neces	
4.	106-68 to 106-78	Regulates sale of cotton-seed meal Enacted no longer neces	
5.	106-79, 106-80	Authorizes Board of Agriculture to Enacted Furnish Limestone to Farmers inac	1919; tive.
6.	106-111	Regulates sale of mixed feed oats	
. 7.	106-198 to 106-202	Trademark for farm products Enacted no longer neces	
8.	106-256 to 106-259	Record of Milk Products Enacted no longer neces	•
9.	106-260 to 106-266	Records of Milk Distributors Enacted no longer neces	•
10.	106-303	Prohibits Sale of Adulterated Enacted Turpentine no longer neces	
11.	106-521 to 106-527	Purchase of Erosion Equipment by Enacted Counties inac	1935; ti v e.
12.	106-535 to 106-538	Minimum Price for Irish Potatoes Enacted no longer neces	



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1987

H

18

D

House 87RN/005 (RN) THIS IS A DRAFT February 9, 1987 11:35 a.m.

Short Title: REPEAL INACTIVE AGRICULTURE LAWS (PUBLIC)

Sponsors: Representatives B. Etheridge, Watkins, Anderson, Beall, Brown, Brubaker, Enloe, Fussell, James, Locks, Lutz, McAlister, Murphy.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

```
1
 2 AN ACT TO REPEAL INACTIVE AND OBSOLETE STATUTES IN CHAPTER 106,
     AGRICULTURE.
 4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
 5
            Section 1.
                          The following statutes and articles in
 6 Chapter 106 of the General Statutes are repealed:
 7
            (a) G.S. 106-20;
            (b) Article 3 (G.S. 106-51);
 8
            (c) Article 5 (G.S. 106-66 and G.S. 106-67);
 9
            (d) Article 6 (G.S. 106-68 to 106-78);
10
11
            (e) Article 7 (G.S. 106-79 and 106-80);
12
            (f) Article 10 (G.S. 106-111);
13
            (g) Article 19 (G.S. 106-198 to 106-202);
            (h) Article 27 (G.S. 106-256 to 106-259);
14
            (i) Article 28 (G.S. 106-260 to 106-266);
15
            (j) Article 33 (G.S. 106(33)) Level de 301
16
            (k) Article 46 (G.S. 106-521 to 106-527);
17
```

(1) Article 48 (G.S. 106-535 to 106-538).

Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.

Library
State Legislative Building
North Carolina