

LEGISLATIVE  
RESEARCH COMMISSION

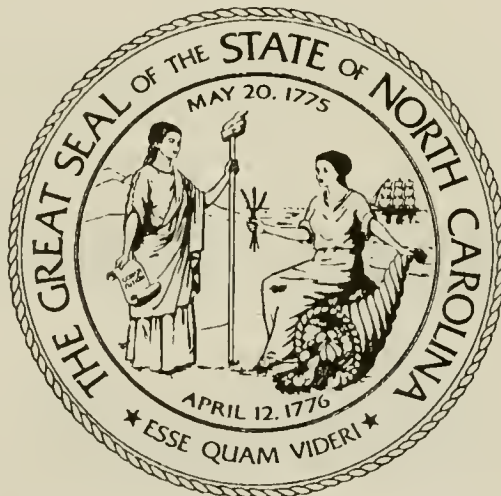
---

FERRIES, OREGON INLET  
AND HURRICANE EVACUATIONS

RECEIVED

DEC 20 1988

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
LIBRARY



REPORT TO THE  
1989 GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1989 SESSION

A LIMITED NUMBER OF COPIES OF THIS REPORT IS AVAILABLE  
FOR DISTRIBUTION THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY.

ROOMS 2126, 2226  
STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611  
TELEPHONE: (919) 733-7778

OR

ROOM 500  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611  
TELEPHONE: (919) 733-9390

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter of Transmittal..... i

Legislative Research Commission Membership.....ii

PREFACE..... 1

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS..... 3

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... 7

APPENDICES

A. Relevant portions of Chapter 873 of the 1987  
Session Laws authorizing the study and  
Senate Bills 1174 and 1176 of the 1987  
Session.....10

B. Relevant portions of Chapter 1100 of the 1987  
Session Laws authorizing the study and  
Senate Bill 1851 of the 1988 Session.....14

C. Membership of the LRC Committee on  
Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and  
Hurricane Evacuations.....16

...

Legislative Proposal I -- A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO PROVIDE HIGHER WIND LOAD STANDARDS  
FOR COASTAL AREA SCHOOLS  
and a Section-by-Section Analysis of the Bill .....17

Legislative Proposal II -- A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE  
OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RADIOS FOR COASTAL  
AREA COUNTIES, FOR A SATELLITE WEATHER  
RECEIVING SYSTEM, AND FOR HURRICANE EMERGENCY  
EVACUATION ROAD SIGNS  
and a Section-by-Section Analysis of the Bill .....19

...



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION  
STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
RALEIGH 27611

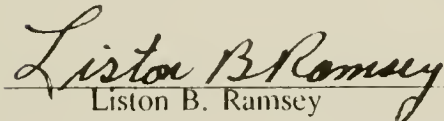


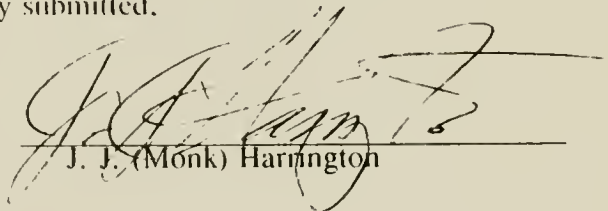
December 14, 1988

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 1989 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Legislative Research Commission herewith submits to you for your consideration its final report on Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and Hurricane Evacuations. The report was prepared by the Legislative Research Commission's Committee on Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and Hurricane Evacuations pursuant to Section 2.1(48 and 49) of Chapter 873 of the 1987 Session Laws, and Section 1.1(5) of Chapter 1100 of the 1987 Session Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Liston B. Ramsey

  
J. J. (Monk) Harrington

Cochairmen  
Legislative Research Commission



1987-1988

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives  
Liston B. Ramsey, Cochair

Rep. John T. Church

Rep. Bruce Ethridge

Rep. Aaron Fussell

Rep. Vernon James

Rep. Josephus Mavretic

President Pro Tempore of  
the Senate  
J. J. Harrington, Cochair

Senator Henson P. Barnes

Senator A. D. Guy

Senator R. L. Martin

Senator James Richardson

Senator Lura Tally





## PREFACE

The Legislative Research Commission, established by Article 6B of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes, is a general purpose study group. The Commission is co-chaired by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and has five additional members appointed from each house of the General Assembly. Among the Commission's duties is that of making or causing to be made, upon the direction of the General Assembly, "such studies of and investigations into governmental agencies and institutions and matters of public policy as will aid the General Assembly in performing its duties in the most efficient and effective manner" (G.S. 120-30.17(1)).

At the direction of the 1987 General Assembly, the Legislative Research Commission has undertaken studies of numerous subjects. These studies were grouped into broad categories and each member of the Commission was given responsibility for one category of study. The Co-chairs of the Legislative Research Commission, under the authority of G.S. 120-30.10(b) and (c), appointed committees consisting of members of the General Assembly and the public to conduct the studies. Co-chairs, one from each house of the General Assembly, were designated for each committee.

The study of Ferries and Oregon Inlet was authorized by Section 2.1(48 and 49) of Chapter 873 of the 1987 Session Laws, (1987 Session). That act states that the Commission may consider Senate Bills 1174 and 1176 Bill in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. Section 1 of Senate Bill 1174 reads in part: "The ... Commission may study the issue of ferries and their utilization in North Carolina." Section 1 of Senate Bill 1176 reads in part: "The ... Commission may study ... The need for navigational improvements at the Oregon Inlet, in Dare County." The relevant portions of Chapter 873 and Senate Bills 1174 and 1176 are included in Appendix A.

The study of Hurricane Evacuations was authorized by Section 1.1(5) of Chapter 1100 of the 1987 Session Laws, (1988 Session). That act states that the Commission may consider Senate Bill 1851 in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. Section 1 of Senate Bill 1851 reads in part: "The ... Commission may study issues related to evacuations that may be forced by the threat of a hurricane and the ability of State and local governments to carry out evacuations in the event of such an emergency." The relevant portions of Chapter 1100 and Senate Bill 1851 are included in Appendix B.

The Legislative Research Commission grouped the study of Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and Hurricane Evacuations in its (VIII.) Transportation and Agriculture area under the direction of Representative Vernon James. The Committee was chaired by Senator Marc Basnight and Representative J. Paul Tyndall. The full membership of the Committee is listed in Appendix C of this report. A committee notebook containing the committee minutes and all information presented to the committee is filed in the Legislative Library.

## COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and Hurricane Evacuations Study Committee met five times. Below is a brief summary of each meeting. More detailed minutes of the committee's proceedings are available in the committee notebook in the legislative library.

### Meeting on February 25-26, 1988

The first meeting of the Ferries, Oregon Inlet, and Hurricane Evacuations Study Committee was held February 25-26 in Ocracoke, on the Outer Banks. The focus of discussion at this meeting was North Carolina's ferry system.

On February 25, the committee met at the Pelican Restaurant in Ocracoke. Following introductory remarks by Cochairman Marc Basnight, the committee heard two brief presentations. First, Alton Ballance, Hyde County Commissioner, teacher, and lifetime resident of Ocracoke, gave an overview of the importance of the ferry system to coastal residents. Following Mr. Ballance, Mr. Harvey Ramsey, Director of the Ferry Division, Department of Transportation, gave a slide presentation and overview of the ferry system, including history, current organization, and organizational goals.

On the morning of February 26, the committee reconvened at the Ocracoke School to continue discussion of the state ferry system. The committee first heard from Mr. John B. Chaplain of British Hovercraft. Mr. Chaplain gave the committee a video presentation on the Hovercraft, a vessel that moves on a cushion of air across land, sea, or ice. Following this, Mr. Harvey Ramsey continued his presentation on the state's ferry system. Topics discussed included: Ten year plan, personnel development, public relations, and capital improvement projects.

#### Meeting on September 8-9, 1988

The second meeting of the committee was held September 8-9 in Kill Devil Hills, in Dare County. The focus of discussion at this meeting was Hurricane Evacuations.

The committee met on the afternoon of September 8 at the Kill Devil Hills Town Hall. After opening remarks from Representative Tyndall and Senator Basnight, Joseph Myers, Director of the N.C. Division of Emergency Management, presented an overview of the state's emergency management system. Following Mr. Myers, Mr. Willis E. Brothers, State Hurricane Co-ordinator, presented a slide presentation of the findings of the recent hurricane study of North Carolina. Committee discussion included the issues of evacuation shelters, bridges, and school wind standards.

The committee continued their meeting on the morning of September 9 in the town hall at Kill Devil Hills. Willis Brothers continued his presentation to the committee, covering evacuation shelters and proposed evacuation route signs. Following Mr. Brothers, the committee heard the concerns of several local officials concerning hurricane evacuation problems. Among the issues raised were: inadequate

road and bridge capacity, lack of Red Cross approved shelters, and inadequate county emergency management radio equipment.

#### Meeting on September 29-30, 1988

The third meeting of the study committee was held September 29-3 in Onslow County. The focus of discussion at this meeting was again hurricane evacuations.

The committee met September 29 at the Onslow Inn in Jacksonville. Joseph Myers, Director of the Division of Emergency Management, and Willis Brothers, State Hurricane Co-ordinator, again presented an overview of the state's hurricane plans, and the results of their recent hurricane study. Following this presentation, Mr. Gerald England of the N.C. Department of Transportation displayed examples of the proposed hurricane emergency evacuation signs, and discussed placement of the signs, and the estimated cost. In addition, Mr. Jim Kennedy of the N.C. Coastal Federation spoke before the committee, urging them to consider stricter coastal development standards as one solution to the hurricane evacuation problem. Committee discussion included school wind standards, evacuation signs, and emergency communications needs.

The committee continued their Onslow County meeting September 30 at the St. Regis Resort on North Topsail Shores. Several local officials attended, and expressed their concerns about hurricane evacuation plans. Among the issues raised were: evacuation signs, reentry after storms, the need for better county emergency management radio systems, and the need for better roads and bridges to speed evacuation.

### Meeting on November 14, 1988

The fourth meeting of the study committee was held November 14, 1988 in the Legislative Building in Raleigh. The purpose of this meeting was to finalize the recommendations of the committee to the 1989 General Assembly.

Mr. Willis Brothers, State Hurricane Co-ordinator, appeared before the committee once again to discuss a new satellite weather information receiving system that he recommended each coastal county be provided. In addition, staff prepared, and the committee discussed, proposed recommendations for the committee's final report. The committee instructed staff to prepare a draft final report to be reviewed and approved at the committee's final meeting on November 29.

### Meeting on November 29, 1988

The fifth and final meeting of the study committee was held November 29, 1988 in the Legislative Building in Raleigh. The committee reviewed, and voted to approve, the final report.

A summary of the committee's recommendations can be found on page 7.

## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. FERRIES

1. The Committee finds that the state's ferry system, serves thousands of residents and tourists each year, and needs to be expanded and upgraded. Therefore, the committee endorses the Ferry Division's 10-year plan, and recommends funding for the next phase of the ten-year plan, as follows:

<u>1989-90</u>	<u>Cost/Million</u>
Construct One (1) "Hatteras Class" Ferry	\$1.5
Design New "Cherry Class" Ferry	0.2
Improve Shore Facilities	1.9
Bulkhead at Cherry Branch	
Maintenance Facility at Ocracoke	
Construct New Facility at Ocracoke	
Construct New Facility at Pamlico River	
Replace Bulkhead at Currituck	
	\$3.6

<u>1990-91</u>	<u>Cost/Million</u>
Construct Two (2) New "Cherry Class" Ferries	\$4.4

2. The Committee finds that need for properly trained ferry personnel is imperative to the proper operation of the State's ferry system. Therefore, the committee endorses the professional development program at the Ferry Division. This program provides properly trained and certified personnel to operate the State's ferry system safely and effectively.
3. The Committee finds that Coast Guard certification is an important asset to ferry personnel. Therefore, the committee recommends that all Ferry Division personnel be properly certified, and that as positions become available, they be filled with certified personnel. In addition, the Committee recommends that all personnel gaining certification be granted pay increases accordingly.
4. The Committee finds that the ferries of North Carolina are both a service and an attraction to thousands of tourists and other travelers.



Therefore, the committee endorses the public relations program of the Ferry Division. This program provides print and personnel service to the thousands of travelers, both in and out of state, that utilize the State's Ferry Facilities each year. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Ferry Division train ferry personnel to provide tourist information and commentary on the history and attraction of coastal North Carolina, during each ferry trip.

5. The Committee recommends, whenever feasible, that Ferry maintenance and construction be undertaken in North Carolina.

## B. OREGON INLET

The committee finds that a dependable and safe navigation channel at Oregon Inlet is vital to the economic well-being of coastal North Carolina. The committee also finds that present efforts to keep the channel open for navigation have not been successful. Therefore, the committee recommends the construction of a dual jetty system to stabilize the Oregon Inlet Channel, as authorized by the United States Congress in December 1970.

## C. HURRICANE EVACUATIONS

1. The Committee finds that properly marked evacuation routes are vital to the safe evacuation of coastal areas in the event of a hurricane. Therefore, the committee recommends that funds be appropriated to provide a uniform system of hurricane evacuation signs in coastal North Carolina.
2. The Committee finds that many coastal schools are not constructed to withstand Hurricane force winds. Schools are often used as emergency shelters, and should be constructed to protect both children and evacuees in the event of a hurricane. Therefore, the committee recommends the enactment of legislation to provide higher wind load standards for coastal area schools subject to hurricane damage. If adequate state funds are not available or provided, then this requirement would not apply.
3. The Committee finds that many coastal counties have inadequate or no emergency radio communication equipment for their emergency management offices. Therefore, the committee recommends that funds be appropriated to provide adequate emergency radio equipment for coastal county emergency management offices.
4. The Committee finds that the need for timely weather information is critical to the proper response to the threat of a hurricane. The committee also finds that the present teletype/phone line weather



information system available to counties is being phased out by the NOAA. Therefore, the committee recommends that funds be appropriated for a satellite weather service system to provide weather data to coastal counties subject to hurricanes.

5. The Committee recommends that the 1989 General Assembly consider as a part of its Highway Funding proposals, the great need of coastal North Carolina for adequate bridge and highway links - to provide safe and rapid emergency evacuation for the thousands of coastal residents and tourists.



APPENDIX A

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1987 SESSION  
RATIFIED BILL

CHAPTER 873  
HOUSE BILL 1

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE STUDIES BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION, TO CREATE AND CONTINUE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND TO AMEND STATUTORY LAW.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. TITLE

Section 1. This act shall be known as "The Study Commissions and Committees Act of 1987."

PART II.-----LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

Sec. 2.1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the topics listed below. Listed with each topic is the 1987 bill or resolution that originally proposed the issue or study and the name of the sponsor. The Commission may consider the original bill or resolution in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. The topics are:

- (48) Ferries (S.B. 1174-Basnigh), and
- (49) Oregon Inlet Navigation, Dredging and Stabilization (S.B. 1176-Basnigh).

Sec. 2.6. Reporting Dates. For each of the topics the Legislative Research Commission decides to study under this act or pursuant to G.S. 120-30.17(1), the Commission may report its findings, together with any recommended legislation to the 1989 General Assembly.

Sec. 2.7. Bills and Resolution References. The listing of the original bill or resolution in this Part is for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed to have incorporated by reference any of the substantive provisions contained in the original bill or resolution.

-----EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 31. This act is effective on July 1, 1987.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1987

S

2

SENATE BILL 1174  
Second Edition Engrossed 6/15/87

Short Title: Ferries Study.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senator Basnight.

---

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

---

May 26, 1987

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION  
3 TO STUDY FERRIES AND THEIR UTILIZATION IN NORTH  
4 CAROLINA AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE STUDY.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the  
7 issue of ferries and their utilization in North Carolina. The Commission shall  
8 report its findings and recommendations to the 1988 Regular Session of the  
9 1987 General Assembly. The report shall contain any proposed legislation  
10 necessary to implement the Commission's recommendations.

11 Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
12 Legislative Research Commission the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for  
13 the 1987-88 fiscal year to fund the study of ferries authorized by this act.

14 Sec. 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1987.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1987

S

I

SENATE BILL 1176

Short Title: Oregon Inlet Study.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senator Basnight.

---

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

---

May 26, 1987

- 1                                   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION  
3 TO STUDY THE OREGON INLET AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS  
4 FOR THE STUDY.  
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  
6             Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the  
7 Oregon Inlet, including the following issues:  
8             (1) The need for navigational improvements at the Oregon Inlet,  
9               in Dare County.  
10            (2) The effectiveness of dredging operations in the Oregon Inlet  
11              Channel since 1960.  
12            (3) The probable effectiveness of stabilizing the Oregon Inlet  
13              Channel by the continuation of a dual jetty system, as  
14              authorized by the United States Congress in December 1970.  
15            (4) What action would be appropriate with respect to these  
16              issues.

1           Sec. 2.    The Commission shall report its findings and  
2 recommendations to the 1988 Regular Session of the 1987 General Assembly.  
3 The report shall contain any proposed legislation necessary to implement the  
4 Commission's recommendations.

5           Sec. 2.    There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
6 Legislative Research Commission the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)  
7 for the 1987-88 fiscal year to fund the study of the Oregon Inlet authorized by  
8 this act.

9           Sec. 3.    This act shall become effective July 1, 1987.



APPENDIX B

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1987 SESSION  
RATIFIED BILL

CHAPTER 1100  
SENATE BILL 257

AN ACT TO CREATE AND CONTINUE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND  
COMMISSIONS AND TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE BUDGET  
OPERATIONS OF THE STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SUBCHAPTER A  
STUDY COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

PART I-----LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION STUDIES

Sec. 1.1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the topics listed below. Listed with each topic is the bill or resolution from the 1987 General Assembly that originally proposed the issue or study and the name of the sponsor. The Commission may consider the original bill or resolution in determining the nature, scope and aspects of the study. The topics are:

...

- (5) Emergency Evacuations Forced by Hurricanes (S.B. 1851 - Basnight).

...

Sec. 1.5. The Legislative Research Commission may report its findings and recommendations to the 1989 General Assembly.

Sec. 1.6. From the funds available to the General Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission shall allocate monies to fund the work of the Legislative Research Commission.

-----EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 49. Except as otherwise provided, this act shall become effective July 1, 1988.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1987

S

1

SENATE BILL 1851

Short Title: Hurricane Evacuation Study.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senator Basnight.

---

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

---

June 21, 1988

1                                   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION  
3 TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS FORCED BY  
4 A HURRICANE AND THE ABILITY OF STATE AND LOCAL  
5 GOVERNMENTS TO CARRY OUT AN EVACUATION IN THE EVENT  
6 OF SUCH AN EMERGENCY.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8           Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study issues  
9 related to evacuations that may be forced by the threat of a hurricane and the  
10 ability of State and local governments to carry out evacuations in the event of  
11 such an emergency.

12           Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission is authorized to  
13 make a final report of its findings and recommendations to the 1989 General  
14 Assembly.

15           Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
16 Legislative Research Commission the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for  
17 the 1988-89 fiscal year to implement this act.

18           Sec. 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 1988.



## APPENDIX C

### MEMBERSHIP OF LRC COMMITTEE ON FERRIES, OREGON INLET AND HURRICANE EVACUATIONS

#### Pres. Pro Tem's Appointments

Sen. Marc Basnight, Cochair  
Post Office Box 1025  
Manteo, NC 27954  
(919) 473-3474

Sen. Franklin L. Block  
520 Princess Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
(919) 763-3463

Sen. A. D. Guy  
Post Office Box 340  
Jacksonville, NC 28541-0340  
(919) 346-4171

Sen. R. L. Martin  
Post Office Box 387  
Bethel, NC 27812  
(919) 825-4361

Mr. Lockwood Phillips  
Carteret County News/Times  
Post Office Box 1679  
Morehead City, NC 28557

**Staff:** Mr. Giles S. Perry  
Legislative Services Office  
(919) 733-2578

**Clerk:** Ms. Gayle Christian  
Room 1415, Legislative Building  
(919) 733-6659 or 733-5801 (O)  
(919) 872-7974 (H)

**LRC Member:** Rep. Vernon G. James

#### Speaker's Appointments

Rep. J. Paul Tyndall, Cochair  
414 Woodhaven Drive  
Jacksonville, NC 28540  
(919) 346-8812

Rep. Brewster W. Brown  
Route 2, Box 46A  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
(919) 332-5921

Rep. Howard B. Chapin  
212 Smaw Road  
Washington, NC 27889  
(919) 946-3480

Rep. Eugene Rogers  
908 Woodlawn Drive  
Williamston, NC 27892  
(919) 792-4245

Rep. R. M. Thompson, Sr.  
Chowan Storage, W. Carteret  
Edenton, NC 27932  
(919) 482-2423



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 1989

D

89S-RW-005  
THIS IS A DRAFT 29-NOV-88 15:25:02

Short Title: School Wind Standards

(Public)

---

Sponsors:

---

Referred to:

---

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE HIGHER WIND LOAD STANDARDS FOR  
3 COASTAL AREA SCHOOLS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 115C-521 is amended by adding a new subdivision  
6 to read:

7 (d) Permanent school facility constructed after January 1, 1990, and  
8 located on the Outer Banks and parts of Carteret, Onslow, Pender, New  
9 Hanover, and Brunswick Counties on the seaward side of the intercoastal  
10 waterway, or within five miles west of the intercoastal waterway, shall be  
11 designed and constructed to withstand windloads of 140 miles per hour. The  
12 State Board of Education shall establish rules to comply with this section,  
13 taking into account roof structure, wall structure, and reduced glass area and  
14 placement, to insure maximum structural safety and integrity at windloads of  
15 140 miles per hour. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if adequate  
16 funds are not provided by or available from the State to fund any added costs  
17 of construction to withstand higher windloads, then this section does not apply.

18 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.





## ANALYSIS OF PROPOSAL 1 -- SCHOOL WIND LOAD STANDARDS

This proposal is a response to the critical need for safe and secure emergency shelter during hurricanes -- for school children as well as refugees of a storm. Currently, schools built on the seaward side of the intercoastal waterway in southeastern North Carolina, and those on the Outer Banks in northeastern North Carolina, must only be built to withstand 120 mph winds. Hurricanes often have sustained winds far exceeding 120 mph, making coastal schools unsuitable as storm shelters. This provision would provide an added degree of safety for coastal schools, and make them safer choices for emergency shelters.

Section 1 of this bill would direct the Department of Public Instruction to develop rules to insure maximum structural safety and integrity for schools in the coastal area for wind loads up to 140 mph. The bill also provides that if state funds are not provided or available to pay for the added costs caused by the new rules then the section would not apply.

Section 2 would make this proposal effective upon ratification.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

D

89S-RW-004

THIS IS A DRAFT 29-NOV-88 16:02:50

Short Title: Hurricane Evacuation Funds

(Public)

---

Sponsors:

---

Referred to:

---

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
3 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RADIOS FOR COASTAL AREA  
4 COUNTIES, FOR A SATELLITE WEATHER RECEIVING SYSTEM,  
5 AND FOR HURRICANE EMERGENCY EVACUATION ROAD SIGNS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
8 Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of Emergency  
9 Management, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the  
10 1989-1990 fiscal year for the purchase of emergency management radios for  
11 coastal area counties currently without adequate emergency radio  
12 communication systems.

13 Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
14 Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of Emergency  
15 Management, the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to begin  
16 installation of a satellite weather receiving system to provide weather data to  
17 coastal area counties subject to hurricanes.

18 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the Highway Fund to the  
19 Department of Transportation the sum of one hundred thousand dollars

1 (\$100,000) for the 1989-1990 fiscal year for the erection of hurricane  
2 emergency evacuation signs for those coastal areas of the state subject to  
3 hurricane damage. The Department of Transportation shall consult with the  
4 Division of Emergency Management, Department of Crime Control and Public  
5 Safety, in determining the design of the signs to be erected.

6           Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.

ANALYSIS OF PROPOSAL II  
EMERGENCY RADIOS, SATELLITE WEATHER RECEIVING SYSTEM,  
AND HURRICANE EVACUATION SIGNS

This proposal is in response to the need of hurricane prone areas to receive information in order to plan for and properly respond to a hurricane emergency.

Section 1 of this proposal would appropriate one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to the Division of Emergency Management to begin to purchase radio equipment for the coastal areas threatened by hurricanes. This equipment would allow the county emergency management officials to communicate and co-ordinate with each other and Raleigh in the event of a storm, a capability they do not now have.

Section 2 of this proposal would appropriate thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to the Division of Emergency Management for the purchase of satellite weather receiving systems for coastal area counties threatened by hurricanes. This system would replace the current teletype/telephone line system for weather information which is being phased out by the NOAA.

Section 3 of this proposal would appropriate one hundred thousand dollars from the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation for the erection of uniform hurricane emergency evacuation signs along the coastal areas of North Carolina. The Department would be required to consult with the Division of Emergency Management to develop a uniform and appropriate design for the signs.

Section 4 of the proposed bill provides that the bill would be effective upon ratification.

