

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1989**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 554\***

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Sponsors: Representatives DeVane; J. Crawford, Bowman, and Bowen.

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Referred to: Rules.

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March 14, 1989

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
2 COMMISSION TO STUDY THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE  
3 GROUNDWATER LEGISLATION TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE  
4 GROUNDWATER RESOURCES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

5       Whereas, more than half the citizens of North Carolina are dependent on  
6 groundwater as their principal source of drinking water; and

7       Whereas, groundwater resources across the State are increasingly vulnerable  
8 to contamination from many land use activities and an unprecedented number of leaking  
9 underground storage tanks; and

10       Whereas, the State's fragmented groundwater protection authorities have  
11 effectively frustrated efforts to protect these resources and to clean up pollution where  
12 incidents of groundwater contamination have occurred; and

13       Whereas, this inability to effectively protect groundwater is leading to  
14 increased statewide degradation of the resource;

15 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

16       Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the impact of  
17 fragmented and ambiguous authorities on the State's ability to effectively protect  
18 groundwater resources, and to assess the need for a Comprehensive Groundwater  
19 Protection Act which would correct this fragmentation problem. The Commission is  
20 further authorized to prepare an interim report of its study, and to make a final  
21 recommendation, including recommendations to the 1989 General Assembly, Regular  
22 Session 1990.

23       Sec. 2. This resolution is effective upon ratification.