

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 489

Short Title: Beaver Control Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Soles.

Referred to: Appropriations

March 27, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE BEAVER
DAMAGE CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Subsection (b) of Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of the 1991 Session Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws and by Section 27.3 of Chapter 769 of the 1993 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"(b) The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board shall develop a pilot program to control beaver damage on private and public lands. Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Halifax, Johnston, Nash, Onslow, Pender, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Vance, Warren, Wayne, and Wilson Counties shall participate in the pilot program. The Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board shall act in an advisory capacity to the Wildlife Resources Commission in the implementation of the program. In developing the program, the Board shall:

- (1) Orient the program primarily toward public health and safety and toward landowner assistance, providing some relief to landowners through beaver control and management rather than eradication;
- (2) Develop a priority system for responding to complaints about beaver damage;

- 1 (3) Develop a system for documenting all activities associated with beaver
2 damage control, so as to facilitate evaluation of the program;
- 3 (4) Provide educational activities as a part of the program, such as printed
4 materials, on-site instructions, and local workshops;
- 5 (5) Provide for the hiring of personnel necessary to implement beaver
6 damage control activities, administer the pilot program, and set salaries
7 of personnel;
- 8 (6) Evaluate the costs and benefits of the program that might be applicable
9 elsewhere in North Carolina.

10 No later than September 30, 1994 and again upon the conclusion of the pilot program
11 on June 30, ~~1995~~, 1997, the Board shall issue a report to the Wildlife Resources
12 Commission on the program to date, including recommendations on the feasibility of
13 continuing the program in participating counties and the desirability of expanding the
14 program into other counties. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall prepare a plan to
15 implement a statewide program to control beaver damage on private and public lands.
16 No later than January 1, 1995, the Wildlife Resources Commission shall present its plan
17 in a report to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic
18 Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic
19 Resources."

20 Sec. 2. Subsection (h) of Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of the 1991 Session
21 Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws and by
22 Section 27.3 of Chapter 769 of the 1993 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

23 "(h) Subsections (a) through (d) of this section expire June 30, ~~1995~~, 1997."

24 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Wildlife Resources
25 Commission the sum of three hundred two thousand five hundred dollars (\$302,500) for
26 the 1995-96 fiscal year and the sum of three hundred two thousand five hundred dollars
27 (\$302,500) for the 1996-97 fiscal year to provide the State share necessary to continue
28 the beaver damage control pilot program established by Section 69 of Chapter 1044 of
29 the 1991 Session Laws, as amended by Section 111 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session
30 Laws and Section 27.3 of the 1993 Session Laws, in Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus,
31 Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Halifax, Johnston, Nash, Onslow, Pender, Pitt, Robeson,
32 Sampson, Vance, Warren, Wayne, and Wilson Counties, provided the sum of twenty-five
33 thousand dollars (\$25,000) in federal funds is available in each fiscal year to provide the
34 federal share. These funds shall be matched by four thousand dollars (\$4,000) of local
35 funds in each fiscal year from each of the 18 participating counties.

36 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.