

1 Whereas, implementing the Cape Fear River Program will help scientists
2 recognize trends and enable government agencies to adjust regulations as appropriate to
3 protect the river basin; and

4 Whereas, the Cape Fear River Program will allow for the placement of
5 sampling stations throughout the Cape Fear River Basin for uniform collection of data;
6 and

7 Whereas, the Cape Fear River Program is supported in part by private
8 contributions from industry, foundations, and local governments; and

9 Whereas, the Cape Fear River Program will be conducted under the guidance
10 and direction of boards representing industry; local governments; the conservation
11 community; the academic community; civic organizations; and local, State, and federal
12 agencies from the lower, middle, and upper geographical areas of the Cape Fear River
13 Basin; and

14 Whereas, the monitoring and scientific components of the Cape Fear River
15 Program will be conducted by coordinators as designated by the respective advisory
16 boards; and

17 Whereas, the Cape Fear River Assembly, Inc., is designated as the basinwide
18 receiving agency for funds approved by the General Assembly on behalf of the Cape Fear
19 River Program for defined and approved projects; and

20 Whereas, project data will be used to form the first comprehensive model of its
21 kind for basinwide management to protect and enhance the economic development use of
22 the Cape Fear River as a vital natural resource; Now, therefore,
23 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

24 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Cape Fear River
25 Assembly, Inc., the sum of three million eight hundred thirty-six thousand dollars
26 (\$3,836,000) for the 1997-98 fiscal year and the sum of three million eight hundred
27 thirty-six thousand dollars (\$3,836,000) for the 1998-99 fiscal year for programs to
28 monitor and improve water quality in the Cape Fear River.

29 Section 2. The Cape Fear River Assembly, Inc., shall report by 1 October
30 1997 and quarterly thereafter to the Environmental Review Commission and the Joint
31 Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the use of the funds
32 appropriated by this act.

33 Section 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.