

February 15, 2001

H 143. WETLANDS REIMBURSEMENT/LOCAL TAX BASE. *TO REQUIRE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT ACQUIRE LAND FOR WETLANDS MITIGATION TO REIMBURSE THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE LAND IS LOCATED OR ITS LOST TAXES DUE TO THE ACQUISITION.* Requires payments in lieu of taxes to counties in enterprise tiers one and two (GS 105-129.3) when land is acquired: (1) by a unit of local government through condemnation or purchase for the purpose of wetlands mitigation, unless the unit of government is a city and the land is within the corporate limits of the city or within the county where the city is located; (2) by a state agency for the purpose of restoring, enhancing, preserving or creating wetlands under the North Carolina Wetlands Restoration Program or when the acquisition is by purchase for mitigation as required by section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, unless the land purchased is in the same county as the wetlands permitted to be lost; or (3) by a state agency from a private wetlands mitigation bank. Sets the amount of payments in lieu at the estimated amount of ad valorem taxes that would have accrued to the county for the next ten years, based on the total assessed value of the acquired land multiplied by the most recent tax rate prior to acquisition. Authorizes use of funds from the Wetlands Restoration Fund for payments in lieu of taxes when the Dep't of Environment and Natural Resources is the state agency acquiring land for wetlands protection. Authorizes county and state agency to agree to waive payments in lieu of taxes.

Intro. by Tucker, Allen, Hill, Jarrell, Luebke, Pope.

Ref. to St. Gov.	GS 143, 146, 153A
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April 16, 2001

H 143. WETLANDS REIMBURSEMENT/LOCAL TAX BASE. Intro. 02/15/01. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Adds new section GS 146-22.5 to provide that when state agency that has acquired land in a county in accordance with provisions of bill later uses the land to mitigate wetlands permitted to be lost in the same county, the county must reimburse the state agency a percentage of the estimated tax paid by the state to the county for the land, minus 10% of the amount times the number of years the agency held the land. This new section applies only to land acquired in counties designated as an enterprise tier one or two area under GS 105-129.3.