

April 5, 2001

S 984. ENHANCE STORMWATER REGS. TO PROVIDE THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION SHALL ASSESS THE PROBLEM OF SEDIMENTATION IN CERTAIN WATERS OF THE STATE, REVISE THE STORMWATER RULES AND PROGRAM TO ADDRESS MORE COMPLETELY THE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SEDIMENTATION AND WATER QUALITY IN CERTAIN AREAS, AND SURVEY OTHER WATERS OF THE STATE TO ESTABLISH A HYDROGRAPHIC BASELINE. Requires Environmental Management Comm'n to survey waters in developed areas to identify any threat to those waters posed by sedimentation and erosion resulting from construction or other land-disturbing activities. Based on the survey, Comm'n must revise the stormwater rules and program to require, among other things, that the best available scientific methods for protecting waters from sedimentation and erosion be implemented. Requires each local government to establish an office of stormwater management charged with reducing surface runoff. Directs Comm'n to survey waters in undeveloped areas for the purpose of developing a hydrographic baseline, to be used to establish stormwater standards that preserve predevelopment hydrography to the extent feasible. Amends mandatory standards for land-disturbing activity to require the use of sedimentation and erosion control devices and practices whenever a tract of more than one-quarter acre is subject to land-disturbing activity (currently required only when tract involved exceeds one acre).

Intro. by Reeves.

Ref. to Agriculture

GS 113A, 143