

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**SENATE BILL 1375\***

Short Title: Funds to Track Greenhouse Gases Emissions. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Clodfelter, Albertson; and Kinnaird.

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Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

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May 27, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO GLOBAL WARMING INITIATIVES, A  
2 NONPROFIT CORPORATION THAT ENCOURAGES INDUSTRIES TO  
3 REDUCE THEIR EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES AND TO  
4 VOLUNTARILY REPORT THEIR EMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION IN A  
5 REGISTRY TO BE PUBLISHED EVERY YEAR BY GLOBAL WARMING  
6 INITIATIVES.  
7

8       Whereas, in 1995 the United States Department of Energy and the United  
9 States Environmental Protection Agency established a pilot program whereby industries  
10 were encouraged to reduce greenhouse gases emissions, to increase energy and process  
11 efficiency, and to voluntarily report their greenhouse gases emissions for publication so  
12 that these emissions could be monitored; and

13       Whereas, in 2001, thirty-six North Carolina facilities voluntarily provided  
14 data on their greenhouse gases emissions, more than any other state that year; and

15       Whereas, the federally sponsored pilot program ended June 30, 2001; and

16       Whereas, the State Energy Office of the Department of Administration  
17 provided fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2001-2002 fiscal year to support the  
18 continuation of the efforts of the pilot program; however, these funds were not  
19 continued for the 2002-2003 fiscal year due to the State's budget crisis and the lack of  
20 matching funds; and

21       Whereas, in 2003, Global Warming Initiatives was incorporated as a  
22 nonprofit corporation for the purpose of continuing the efforts begun by the federally  
23 sponsored pilot program; Now, therefore,

24 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

25       **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Global  
26 Warming Initiatives the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the  
27 2004-2005 fiscal year, to be used to assist Global Warming Initiatives, a nonprofit  
28 corporation, to do all of the following:

- 1 (1) Encourage industries to reduce greenhouse gases emissions, to  
2 increase energy and process efficiency, and to voluntarily report their  
3 greenhouse gases emissions for publication.
- 4 (2) Publish at least once each calendar year a registry of the data collected  
5 from industries under subdivision (1) of this section.
- 6 (3) Recruit additional industries to report their greenhouse gases  
7 emissions.
- 8 (4) Study ways to promote wider participation by industry in the voluntary  
9 reporting of greenhouse gases emissions, including consideration of  
10 the advisability of mandating industry to report these emissions.
- 11 (5) Conduct seminars across the State to inform industry on the activities  
12 of Global Warming Initiatives and the benefits of industry  
13 participation in its reporting program.
- 14 (6) Continue working with units of local government that participate in the  
15 International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, in which the  
16 City of Durham, the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and Orange  
17 County currently participate.
- 18 (7) Study the feasibility and desirability of promoting the use in North  
19 Carolina of a cap and trade program whereby industries that emit less  
20 than a maximum allowed level of greenhouse gases receive credit that  
21 may be traded to industries that emit more than that level.
- 22 (8) No later than December 1, 2005, report to the State Energy Office of  
23 the Department of Administration, the Environmental Review  
24 Commission, and the Fiscal Research Division, which report shall  
25 include an itemized account of how the funds appropriated by this act  
26 were used, how Global Warming Initiatives accomplished the  
27 activities specified under this section, the success of each activity, and  
28 any findings or recommendations regarding these activities in reducing  
29 greenhouse gases emissions.

30 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.