

March 14, 2005

**H 607. CLARIFY VETERINARY URINE TEST REQUIREMENTS (=S 300).** *TO CLARIFY THAT A VETERINARIAN WHO OPERATES A MOBILE FACILITY MAY ENTER INTO A WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO HAVE URINE TESTS PERFORMED BY ANOTHER FACILITY OR LABORATORY.* Identical to S 300, introduced 3/2/05.

**Intro. by Brubaker.**

Ref. to Agriculture

GS 90

May 31, 2005

**H 607. ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS (NEW).** Intro. 3/14/05. House committee substitute deletes all provisions of 1st edition and replaces it with *AN ACT TO AMEND THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION ENABLING ACT TO ESTABLISH A CATEGORY OF ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS THAT OFFERS ADDITIONAL PROTECTION OF FARMLAND FROM NONFARM DEVELOPMENT AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR FARMLAND WHEN THE OWNER OF THE FARMLAND IS WILLING TO ENTER INTO AN IRREVOCABLE CONSERVATION AGREEMENT FOR TEN YEARS OR LONGER.* Enacts new GS 106-743A through 106-743E, codified as Part 3 of Article 61 of GS Chapter 106, providing as new title indicates. The act also recodifies GS 106-735 and 106-736 as Part 1 of Article 61 of GS Chapter 106, GS 106-737 through 106-743 as Part 2 of Article 61 of GS Chapter 106, and GS 106-744 as Part 4 of Article 61 of GS Chapter 106 and makes conforming changes to those statutes to reflect the existence of new enhanced voluntary agricultural districts. Also makes conforming changes to the following statutes to reflect the existence of new enhanced voluntary agricultural districts: GS 153A-340(b)(2) (nonfarm products and bona fide farm purposes), GS 160A-360 (municipal extraterritorial powers), GS 153A-331 (county subdivision control ordinances), GS 160A-372 (municipal subdivision control ordinances), and GS 143-215.74 (Agriculture Cost Share Program).

June 1, 2005

**H 607. ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.** Intro. 3/14/05. House amendment makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Makes technical changes only.

August 11, 2005

**H 607. ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.** Intro. 3/14/05. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Changes title to *AN ACT TO RENAME THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION ENABLING ACT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND AS THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION ENABLING ACT AND THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND AND TO AMEND THE ACT TO ESTABLISH A CATEGORY OF ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS THAT OFFERS ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR FARMLAND WHEN THE OWNER OF THE FARMLAND IS WILLING TO ENTER INTO AN IRREVOCABLE CONSERVATION AGREEMENT FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS AND TO CREATE AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE.* Makes following revisions to bill:

GS Chapter 106, Article 61, is renamed "Agricultural Development and Preservation of Farmland" (was, "Preservation of Farmland").

In proposed Part 3 of GS Chapter 106, Article 61, entitled "Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts" (EVAD), the criteria for an EVAD (in new GS 106-743.1) and for receiving benefits (in new GS 106-743.4) are modified. New GS 106-743.2 is revised to provide that a conservation agreement for an EVAD automatically renews for three years after the initial ten-year period unless written notice of termination is given by either party. The changes to new GS 106-743.3 regarding the applicability of other sections, and to new GS 106-743.5 regarding waiver of utility assessments, are technical. Conforming changes are made to GS Chapters 143, 153A, and 160A to implement the EVAD program.

GS 106-736 is revised to provide that counties and cities may develop programs to promote growth and sustainability of farming and to assist farmers. GS 106-737 and 106-738 are revised to amend the definition of qualifying farmland and the criteria for a voluntary agricultural district (VAD). GS 106-744 is revised in the following respects: to clarify that counties may purchase agricultural conservation easements on property outside a VAD; to allow an agricultural conservation easement to permit agricultural uses as necessary to promote agricultural development associated with family farms; to expand the purposes for which the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (was, Farmland Preservation Trust Fund) may be used; to establish 19-member Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Committee to advise the Agriculture Commissioner on use of Trust Fund. Advisory Committee must meet quarterly and must submit annual report to specified legislative bodies by May 1 each year, beginning May 1, 2006.

Definition of agriculture is also expanded in GS 106-581.1 to include a broader range of activities, such as improvement, conservation, and maintenance of farm buildings, and marketing of agricultural products, agritourism, and similar activities incident to operation of farm.

September 21, 2005

**SL 2005-390 (H 607). ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS. AN ACT TO RENAME THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION ENABLING ACT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND AS THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION ENABLING ACT AND THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND AND TO AMEND THE ACT TO ESTABLISH A CATEGORY OF ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS THAT OFFERS ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR FARMLAND WHEN THE OWNER OF THE FARMLAND IS WILLING TO ENTER INTO AN IRREVOCABLE CONSERVATION AGREEMENT FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS AND TO CREATE AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 5/31/05, 6/1/05, and 8/11/05. Enacted September 13, 2005. Effective September 13, 2005.