

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE BILL 2626

Short Title: Fund Stream Mapping. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Warren, Gibson, Owens, Harrison (Primary Sponsors);
and Faison.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 25, 2006

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE
3 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
4 COORDINATING COUNCIL TO IMPROVE THE MAPPING AND DIGITAL
5 REPRESENTATION OF SURFACE WATERS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

6 Whereas, existing State, local, and federal maps of streams and surface waters
7 are outdated, inadequate, inaccurate, and inconsistent; and

8 Whereas, State, local, and federal agencies, private developers, and nonprofit
9 conservation organizations use maps of streams and surface waters on a daily basis to
10 make environmental and economic decisions concerning the location of schools,
11 highways, wastewater facilities, stormwater facilities, industries, businesses, homes,
12 greenways, hazard mitigation projects, and stream and wetland mitigation projects; and

13 Whereas, State, local, federal, and private agencies and organizations must
14 frequently send staff or consultants to the field to identify the location of streams and
15 surface waters; and

16 Whereas, up-to-date and accurate maps of surface waters made available to
17 government agencies and the public over the Internet on NC OneMap would increase
18 the productivity of, and reduce costs for, the public and private sectors; and

19 Whereas, NC OneMap is currently serving data over the Internet for 54 local
20 governments and more local governments desire to participate; and

21 Whereas, the General Assembly has invested over \$50,000,000 to update and
22 improve the mapping and digital representation of floodplains that can be utilized to
23 improve the mapping and digital representation of surface waters; and

24 Whereas, in Section 33.1 of S.L. 2004-161, the General Assembly directed
25 the Geographic Information Coordinating Council and the Department of Environment
26 and Natural Resources to develop and recommend a plan to improve the mapping and
27 digital representation of surface waters in North Carolina to the General Assembly and
28 the Environmental Review Commission; and

1 Whereas, the Geographic Information Coordinating Council established a
2 Stream Mapping Working Group composed of State, local, and federal agencies to
3 develop the plan; and

4 Whereas, the Stream Mapping Working Group determined user requirements,
5 mapping specifications, implementation options, and developed a time line and a budget
6 for stream mapping; and

7 Whereas, the Geographic Information Coordinating Council adopted the
8 "Implementation Plan to Improve Mapping and Digital Representation of Surface
9 Waters," at a cost of \$16,236,500 over five years; Now, therefore,

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
12 Department of Environment and Natural Resources the sum of sixteen million two
13 hundred thirty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$16,236,500) for the 2006-2007 fiscal
14 year to fund the Implementation Plan to Improve Mapping and Digital Representation
15 of Surface Waters adopted by the Geographic Information Coordinating Council on 5
16 January 2005 and presented to the Environmental Review Commission on 13 January
17 2005.

18 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall
19 make the mapping and digital representation of surface waters available to other State
20 agencies and the public as soon as practicable over the Internet on NC OneMap.

21 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall
22 seek funds from federal agencies, including, but not limited to, the Federal Emergency
23 Management Agency, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States
24 Environmental Protection Agency, United States Geological Survey, and United States
25 Department of Agriculture to help fund the Implementation Plan to Improve Mapping
26 and Digital Representation of Surface Waters.

27 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective 1 July 2006.