May 28, 2008

S 2104. POULTRY WORKER PROTECTION/FUNDS. Filed 5/27/08. *TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF EMPLOYEES OF POULTRY PROCESSING PLANTS BY AUTHORIZING THE STATE HEALTH DIRECTOR TO INSPECT THE PLANTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE*.

Enacts new GS 95-136.2 to establish inspection of poultry processing plants by the State Health Director (Director) to review and investigate the medical evaluation, treatment, referral, record-keeping, reporting, and the possible causes of injuries, illnesses, or deaths within the poultry processing plant. Requires the Director to report inspection findings to the Director of the Occupational Safety and Health Division and make an annual report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tem. of the Senate, and the Commissioner of Labor. Provides the Director with immediate access to the poultry plant and personnel, as well as access to records maintained by the Department of Labor. Requires the poultry plant to maintain a written log of all injuries and health concerns and, as of September 1, 2008, plants must contract with or employ at least one licensed medical professional to be available to employees at the plant during operating hours.

Appropriates $350,000 in recurring funds for 2008-09 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, State Health Director, to implement this act. Effective July 1, 2008.

Intro. by Clodfelter. GS 95, APPROP