

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH70366-LD-118A* (03/12)

Short Title: Funds to Monitor GHG Emissions.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Allen.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO MONITOR AND REPORT
3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AT FACILITIES AT FOUR SELECTED
4 STATE DEPARTMENTS.

5 Whereas, in 1995 the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the
6 United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a five-year research
7 program in 11 states called "Climate Wise." The main goal was to research the best
8 practices on how industries could reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Other goals of the
9 Climate Wise Program were to show industries how to increase energy efficiency and
10 process efficiency and how to voluntarily report their greenhouse gases emissions
11 through the DOE Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gas (VRGG) Program. Funds for
12 the Climate Wise Program were matched at both the state and federal level, with North
13 Carolina receiving the largest amount of \$60,000 for the years 2000 to 2001; and

14 Whereas, at the end of the Climate Wise pilot program, the states were
15 expected to continue the Program, using state and private monies. The State of North
16 Carolina provided \$50,000 in 2001 through 2002 and dropped all support in June 2002
17 due to a budget shortfall; and

18 Whereas, North Carolina did not continue this program after the funds ran
19 out; Climate Wise was cancelled due to State budget restraints; and

20 Whereas, with the data collected from 41 facilities for the 2001 year, both the
21 DOE and the EPA gave the Director of the Climate Wise Program permission to
22 continue the reporting research with private loans and other sources. The reporting
23 continued from North Carolina with continuous early-action recognition; and

24 Whereas, Global Warming Initiatives (GWI) was incorporated on January 6,
25 2003, as a 501(c)3 nonprofit, public-benefit corporation for the purpose of continuing
26 the research initiated under the Climate Wise Program and continuing to report the 41

1 facilities to DOE. GWI organized in the same manner as California and other state and
2 regional programs but with private funding and loans; and

3 Whereas, GWI currently works with industries of any size and plans to
4 expand in order to assist in matters related to greenhouse gas emissions from
5 agriculture, forestry, transportation, and residential housing; and

6 Whereas, North Carolina has led the nation each year since 1998 in the
7 number of industrial facilities reporting each year to the VRGG Program. In December
8 2005, there were more textile facilities reporting than in all the other states together; and

9 Whereas, in 2005, the General Assembly provided GWI with \$10,000 in
10 support for one year; Now, therefore,

11 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

12 **SECTION 1.** Global Warming Initiatives (GWI), a nonprofit corporation,
13 shall select four departments of State government of various sizes and shall collect data
14 from each of these four State departments for the purpose of calculating the absolute
15 emissions and intensity emission reductions of greenhouse gases. In cooperation with
16 the State Energy Office and the State Construction Office of the Department of
17 Administration, GWI shall establish a standard procedure for reporting greenhouse gas
18 emissions, itemized for each facility. GWI shall make this data available to any State
19 and federal agency that has a program regarding the emission of greenhouse gases or
20 global warming. Further, GWI shall project the energy usage of each of these four State
21 departments and recommend for each department a goal for greenhouse gas emissions.

22 **SECTION 2.** The data collection, conversion, and report forms used by
23 GWI under Section 1 of this act shall be consistent with the DOE, EPA, and World
24 Resource Institute Greenhouse Gas Protocol and shall allow for instant change from any
25 reporting system in either British thermal units (BTUs) or metric tons of carbon dioxide
26 equivalent (MTCO₂e).

27 **SECTION 3.** GWI may do any one or more of the following:

- 28 (1) Meet with top management of industry to inform them of the programs
29 that are available within North Carolina regarding energy efficiency,
30 environmental performance, and process improvement, and to give
31 industry an overview of how these programs can reduce greenhouse
32 gas emissions.
- 33 (2) Collect data from industry, calculate the absolute emissions of
34 greenhouse gas emissions and the emissions' intensity levels, and
35 report the results in both the federal VGGR Program and in GWI's
36 publication, the North Carolina Global Warming Registry.
- 37 (3) Continue to publish the North Carolina Global Warming Registry and
38 include a listing of programs that aid in the reduction of greenhouse
39 gases.
- 40 (4) Host annual seminars across the State on global warming issues and
41 the benefits of participating in reporting greenhouse gas emissions and
42 explain what is required of a reporting entity.
- 43 (5) Heighten awareness of the cap and trade programs whereby industries
44 that emit less than a maximum allowed level of greenhouse gases

1 receive credits that may be sold to industries that emit more than their
2 allowed level.

3 **SECTION 4.** No later than June 30 of 2008 and 2009, present an annual
4 report on GWI's activities under Section 1 and Section 2 of this act to the Division of
5 Air Quality of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, State Energy
6 Office of the Department of Administration, the Department of Commerce, the
7 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Energy Policy Council, the
8 Environmental Review Commission, and the Fiscal Research Division. This report
9 shall include an itemized account of how the funds appropriated under this act were
10 used, how GWI accomplished the requirements under this act, the success of each
11 activity, and any findings or recommendations regarding activities in reducing
12 greenhouse gas emissions.

13 **SECTION 5.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Global
14 Warming Initiatives, a nonprofit corporation, the sum of three hundred thousand dollars
15 (\$300,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of three hundred thousand dollars
16 (\$300,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to implement the requirements under this act.
17 It is the intent of the General Assembly that each State department selected under
18 Section 1 of this act will continue to monitor and report the emissions of greenhouse gas
19 emissions, using continuing funds available to each department.

20 **SECTION 6.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.