

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE DRS35261-LD-118 (03/12)**

Short Title: Funds to Monitor GHG Emissions.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Albertson.

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Referred to:

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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 (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e).

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.