GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

S

SENATE BILL 1278*

Short Title:	Water Infrastructure Database/Task Force.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senators Albertson and Hoyle.	
Referred to:	Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.	

May 20, 2010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE 3 ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A STATEWIDE WATER AND 4 WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE RESOURCE AND FUNDING DATABASE AS 5 RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON WATER AND 6 WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 SECTION 1.(a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the 9 Department of Commerce, the Department of the Treasurer, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the State Water Infrastructure Commission, the Office of Information Technology 10 11 Services, and the Environmental Finance Center at the School of Government at the University 12 of North Carolina at Chapel Hill shall establish a task force to work together to design a plan 13 for the establishment and maintenance of a statewide water and wastewater infrastructure 14 resource and funding database. The North Carolina League of Municipalities, the North 15 Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the Rural Economic Development Center, and the United States Department of Agriculture also shall be included as joint members of the task 16 17 force if they choose to participate in the study. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall be the lead agency for the task force. The task force may also work with other 18 19 interested stakeholders in its discretion.

20 **SECTION 1.(b)** The purpose of the water and wastewater resource funding database is to provide one source of information that has the ability to track and locate all of the 21 22 current water and wastewater infrastructure project needs and funding patterns in this State, 23 thus reducing the resources spent by federal and State agencies (e.g. EPA), funding groups, and 24 nonprofit organizations determining water infrastructure needs in North Carolina.

25 In developing the plan, the task force shall consider the consolidation and 26 integration of information that is relevant to water and wastewater infrastructure and water use and currently is being collected by State agencies, nonprofit corporations, institutions of higher 27 28 education, and other entities.

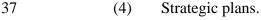
29 The task force shall consider a system design that is capable of compiling and 30 indexing all of the items listed in subdivisions (1) through (11) of this subsection and shall identify which of those items should be included in the database compiled by the system. The 31 32 task force shall also indicate in its findings the merits of including or excluding each item. The 33 items for consideration are as follows:

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- Current and proposed infrastructure projects. (1)
- Funding patterns and the status of each infrastructure project. (2)

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(3) System information (interconnections, fiscal).





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	(5)	Local water supply plans.			
	(6)	Water resource maps and publications.			
	(7)	Systems management information.			
	(8)	Reporting and regulatory requirements.			
	(9)	Guidance and training documents.			
	(10)	Procedural guidance and forms for project implementation and funding.			
	(11)	Internet links to support services.			
	SEC	TION 1.(c) In addition to the items set out in subsection (b) of this section, the			
task for	rce may a	lso consider the following:			
	(1)	In developing the plan, the task force shall consider the consolidation at			
		integration of information that is relevant to water and wastewat			
		infrastructure and water use and currently is being collected by Sta			
		agencies, nonprofit corporations, institutions of higher education, and oth			
		entities.			
	(2)	The possibility of digitizing common application forms currently being			
		utilized by certain funding agencies, as well as digitizing past funding			
		documents and records.			
	(3)	Information streamlining processes that can be implemented in the syste			
		design.			
	(4)	The preliminary design and structural options for developing a database			
		water and wastewater needs.			
	(5)	How current resources and existing efforts can be leveraged to maximi			
		funding for local water systems.			
	(6)	Determination of what low- and no-incremental-cost data integration			
		implementation methods for assessment of water system needs exist.			
	(7)	Implementing methods and data that enhance the sharing of infrastructu			
		development plans and documents.			
	(8)	The design for a more comprehensive and robust database to be built an			
		constructed if more funds become available for the database in the future.			
	(9)	Any other information relevant to the design of the database syste			
		described in this section.			
	SEC	TION 1.(d) The task force shall present its proposed plan and report			
findings and recommendations to the Legislative Study Commission on Water and Wastewat					
		November 1, 2010. The report shall include the estimated cost to create the			
databas	se and the	e estimated cost to maintain such a system. The report shall also include an			
legislat	ive chang	ges that may be needed to implement the proposed plan.			
	SEC	FION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.			