



HOUSE BILL 686: NC Seafood Park/Name Change

2013-2014 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Judiciary I	Date:	June 17, 2013
Introduced by:	Reps. Tine, Stone, Steinburg	Prepared by:	Bill Patterson
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 686 changes the name of the NC Seafood Park Authority to the NC Marine Industrial Park Authority and makes modifications to the Authority's purposes and powers in keeping with its expanded mission.*

CURRENT LAW: The NC Seafood Industrial Park Authority was established in 1979. The Wanchese Seafood Industrial Park was the original park operated by the authority. It opened in 1981 and consists of 53 acres on the south end of Roanoke Island in Dare County. The Park is fully leased and is home to a number of marine businesses including boat building, commercial fishing, marina, and supply chain operations. In June 2012, the 7.5 acre Engelhard Marine Industrial Park secured its first tenant, Southern Diesel Corp. A third park, Perquimans Marine Industrial Park, a 72 acre site in Perquimans County, is currently ready for development.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 686 renames the NC Seafood Industrial Park Authority as the NC Marine Industrial Authority. The bill updates and makes clarifying and conforming changes to the language in the original Article and amends the purpose and powers of the Authority consistent with the change in its name.

In particular, the bill authorizes the Authority to promote, develop, construct, equip, maintain, and operate one or more marine industrial parks and to maintain, develop, and improve the navigability of waterways in or adjacent to the parks and those connecting the parks with the channels of commerce of the Atlantic Ocean. The bill deletes the requirement that such improvements be consistent with project design by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) pursuant to the Manteo Bay navigation project. The Authority is also directed to foster the growth of marine-related industries in the State and to accept funds from cities and counties in which a marine industrial park is located.

The powers of the Authority are also amended to include the power to acquire, equip, and operate wharves, docks, elevators, and other facilities in the aid of commerce including dredging of approaches to port facilities at the parks and improving the navigability of those waterways connecting the parks to the Atlantic Ocean. The Authority's power of eminent domain is amended to remove the reference to navigation stabilization structures recommended by the Corps under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1970.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act is effective when it becomes law.

Barbara Riley, counsel to House Agriculture Committee, and Jennifer Mundt, staff to Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources, substantially contributed to this summary.

