May 18, 2000

H 1601. PRIVATE COUNSEL/ATTY. FEES/STATE EMP (=\$ 1315). TO PROVIDE FOR PRIVATE COUNSEL AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE RECOVERY OF COSTS AND ATTORNEYS' FEES IN CIVIL ACTIONS AGAINST A STATE EMPLOYEE WHEN THE STATE EMPLOYEE IS ALLEGED TO PERSONALLY BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES FOR ANY OFFICIAL ACT OR OMISSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION. Amends GS 114-2.3 to provide for private counsel for state employees responsible for the administration or enforcement of laws for the protection of the environment, public health, or natural resources in civil suits seeking to hold the employees personally liable for damages resulting from acts or omissions during the course of their employment. Adds new GS 6-19.3, authorizing costs and attorneys' fees for state employees who prevail in such cases. Effective upon enactment.

Intro. by Gibson.

Ref. to Ways & Means	GS 114, 6
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