May 17, 2006

H 2185. LOW EMISSION VEHICLES/FUNDS. Filed 5/17/06. *TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN THE STATE BY PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF LOW EMISSION VEHICLES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION*. Adds new GS 143-215.107E to prohibit the sale or lease in North Carolina of passenger cars or light trucks that do not meet specific exhaust emission standards in effect in California and prohibits the Division of Motor Vehicles from registering vehicles that do not comply with this requirement. Directs the Environmental Management Commission to adopt rules to establish emission standards that are equivalent to those in effect in California. Exempts (1) emergency vehicles owned by public entities, (2) vehicles with right-hand drive configurations purchased by rural mail carriers for their work, if not available in a model that complies with the California standards, and (3) vehicles designed exclusively for off-highway use.

In addition, the new section directs vehicle manufacturers to meet new fleet requirements for new vehicles delivered for sale or lease in North Carolina: (1) compliance with medium-duty vehicle phase-in requirements, and (2) compliance with the Zero Emission Vehicles Sales Requirement.

Intro. by Harrison, Hackney, Alexander, GS 20, 143 Carney.