

March 24, 2005

S 994. CHANGE GAS TAX RATES/INCREASE TANK FEES. *TO STABILIZE THE MOTOR FUEL TAX BY IMPOSING A CAP ON THE VARIABLE WHOLESale COMPONENT OF THE MOTOR FUELS TAX RATE AT ITS CURRENT RATE, TO ADJUST THE MOTOR FUEL EXCISE TAX RATE, AND TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL OPERATING FEES FOR PETROLEUM COMMERCIAL UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS IN ORDER TO PROTECT REVENUES AVAILABLE TO THE HIGHWAY FUND AND HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR THE CLEANUP OF PETROLEUM CONTAMINATED PROPERTY.*

Amends GS 105-449.80(a) to increase the flat-rate component of motor fuel tax from 17½¢ to 18½¢ a gallon and cap the variable component of the tax at 9.1¢ a gallon. Amends GS 105-449.125 to allocate a portion of the increase to the Leaking Tank Cleanup Funds and to the Water and Air Quality Account, adjusting the proportions each fund receives. Amends GS 143-215.94C to increase the commercial underground storage tank fees from \$200 to \$300 for smaller tanks and from \$300 to \$450 for larger tanks. Tax changes are effective July 1, 2005, and fee changes are effective January 1, 2006.

Intro. by Clodfelter.

Ref. to Finance

GS 105, 143