

April 18, 2007

H 1773. TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS. Filed 4/18/07. *TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND PROTECTION TO THE TAXPAYERS BY LIMITING INCREASES IN THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET, REFORMING THE BUDGET PROCESS, ESTABLISHING AN EMERGENCY RESERVE TRUST FUND, AND TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE LIMIT.*

Amends various sections of GS Chapter 143C as title indicates. Provides that the General Fund expenditure limit is the previous year's limit increased by a rate that is an average of the population and inflation changes for the previous three years. The Governor and General Assembly may not exceed that amount in proposing or appropriating funds. The Legislature, with a two-thirds vote of the membership may exceed the limits for nonrecurring expenses. Specifies uses of revenues that exceed the limit, to create a reserve fund and to be the basis for tax reductions. Proposes an amendment to the NC Constitution to add provisions substantially identical to the statutory changes. The constitutional amendment is effective if approved in the next general election after the bill becomes law. The statutes are effective if the amendment is approved.

Intro. by Blust, Holloway.

GS 143C, CONST