

April 1, 2009

H 1015. ASHEVILLE/ENERGY IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENTS. Filed 4/1/09. *TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE TO DESIGNATE AN AREA WITHIN THE CITY WITHIN WHICH DESIGNATED AREA CITY OFFICIALS AND FREE AND WILLING PROPERTY OWNERS MAY ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL ASSESSMENTS TO FINANCE THE INSTALLATION OF DISTRIBUTED GENERATION RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES OR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO REAL PROPERTY.*

Adds a new Article 10B to GS 160A providing for contractual assessments for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements to real property, following a model used in Berkeley, California. States intent to promote financing of renewable energy sources that are attached to real property. Authorizes city officials to designate the whole or part of a city in which the city can provide renewable energy sources or energy efficiency improvements and make assessments directly to the benefited property owner. Requires a report by a city official setting out the boundary of the area in which contractual assessments will be offered and the contracts and policies that will be used, including a financing plan that may include the sale of bonds or other financing to raise capital for the energy investments. Provides for public notice and comment on the report. Establishes assessments made under this Article as liens on the real estate to which the energy investments attach and provides a method of recording the assessments with the register of deeds. Provides for the levying of assessments. Applies only to the City of Asheville. Effective July 1, 2009.

Intro. by Fisher, Goforth, Whilden.

BUNCOMBE