

April 7, 2009

H 1163. SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FOOD POLICY COUNCIL. Filed 4/7/09. *TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FOOD POLICY COUNCIL TO ADDRESS POLICY CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY IN NORTH CAROLINA.*

Adds new Article 70, *North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Policy Council*, to GS Chapter 106, establishing the 18-member North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Policy Council (Council), with specified areas of expertise and/or positions. States that the purpose of the council is to develop sustainable local food policies for North Carolina to promote a local food economy that will benefit the state by creating jobs, stimulating statewide economic development, and engendering other positive impacts on economic development, health and wellness, hunger and food access, and the state's natural environment. Offers findings from the General Assembly declaring that the time is right for the state to build its sustainable local food economy.

Provides that appointments to the Council are to be for a three-year term and those terms are to be staggered so that three terms will expire on June 30 of each year, but provides that members of the Council are to serve until their successors are appointed. Provides additional guidelines regarding the operation and organization of the Council including the processes for selecting a chair, filling vacancies, meeting space, the calling of meetings, and removal of members.

Delineates policy issues for the Council to address in carrying out its duties in developing sustainable local food policies for North Carolina. Requires the Council to submit an annual report by October 1 of each year to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Commissioner of Agriculture. Provides that the first report is due no later than October 1, 2010. Directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to use \$100,000 for each year of the 2009-2011 biennium of its available funds for the costs of the work of Council. Effective July 1, 2009.

Intro. by Rapp, Harrison.

GS 106