

May 12, 2010

H 1701. NC SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE. Filed 5/12/10. *TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE, AN INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ADMINISTRATION, COMMERCE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING HEALTHY, SAFE, AND WALKABLE COMMUNITIES ACCESSIBLE TO ALL NORTH CAROLINIANS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON URBAN GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES.*

Enacts new Part 22 (North Carolina Sustainable Communities Task Force) to Article 10 of GS Chapter 143B. Establishes the 11 member North Carolina Sustainable Communities Task Force (Task Force) within the Department of Commerce to lead the state's sustainable communities initiatives. Lists the Task Force's duties and membership, with five member appointed by the Governor. Requires the Task Force to report to the Governor, House and Senate Commerce Committees, and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by October 1 of each year, beginning in 2011; specifies elements that must be included in the report.

Requires the Departments of Commerce, Transportation, and Environment and Natural Resources to ensure that programs they administer that provide pass-through funding or grants to regional bodies, counties, or cities, will provide supplemental funds to those regional bodies, counties, or cities that meet four specified requirements, including submitting a workplan to the Task Force showing activities to be funded and the public process through which the activities are to be selected, and providing matching funds. Requires the Departments to report on their progress to the House and Senate Commerce Committees and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

Appropriates \$100,000 for 2010-11 from the General Fund to the Task Force for operation expenses. Appropriates \$125,000 for 2010-11 from the General Fund to the Task Force to provide up to 50% of any required local matching funds for recipients of Federal Sustainable Communities Planning Grants and any other federal grants requiring matching funds that are related to sustainable development. Appropriates \$425,000 in recurring funding from the General Fund to the Department of Commerce State Aid to support operations of regional Councils of Government.

Makes a conforming change to GS 120-123 (service by members of the General Assembly on certain boards and commissions).

Effective July 1, 2010, and expires June 30, 2021.

Intro. by Weiss.

GS 120, 143B, APPROP

May 26, 2010

H 1701. NC SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE. Filed 5/12/10. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Moves provisions creating the task force to Article 10 of Chapter 143B. Adds Secretary of the Department of Administration and Director of the Division of Public Health in the Department of Health and Human Services to list of officials to whom task force will recommend policies. Changes Task force membership so that Governor appoints one member, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate appoints two members, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives appoints two members. Creates a North Carolina Sustainable Communities Grant Fund to be administered by task force to improve regional planning concerning housing, transportation, and zoning issues. Changes the task force reporting obligations to include relevant population and demographic information, and an inventory of state policy and programs that affect the development of sustainable communities. Eliminates the obligation to report on funding initiatives for the Ecosystem Enhancement Program. Adds additional reporting obligations in odd-numbered years to specified entities. Requires annual reports to same bodies by the Departments of Commerce, Transportation, Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Administration, and Health and Human Services regarding each department's progress in fostering sustainable development principles. Requires DENR to transfer the vacant district planning position in the Division of Coastal Management to the task

force and requires DENR's Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach to provide administrative support to the task force. Eliminates the appropriations for local matching funds and for regional councils of governments. Increases the 2010-2011 appropriation for the task force and the grant fund to \$500,000.