April 1, 2009

H 966. WILMINGTON/ACQUIRE SUBSTANDARD DWELLINGS. Filed 4/1/09. TO ALLOW THE CITY OF WILMINGTON TO EXERCISE THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN SUBSTANDARD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR LOWAND MODERATE-INCOME PERSONS.

Enacts GS 160A-450.1 to allow the City of Wilmington to have the power of eminent domain to acquire: (1) vacant dwellings that have been closed for human habitation as a result of housing code violations for a minimum of three years and (2) the lot or tract upon which the vacant dwelling is situated, for the purpose of providing housing for low- and moderate-income persons. Defines the phrase *low and moderate income* as annual gross income equal to or less than 80% of the median household income for the Metropolitan Statistical Area of which Wilmington is a part, adjusted by household size, and as that phrase may be revised periodically by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Requires the governing body to adopt a plan to use condemned property for low- or moderate income housing prior to exercising the power of eminent domain. Prohibits the use of the power of eminent domain unless the vacant dwelling would otherwise be demolished under the city's housing code.

Intro. by Hughes. NEW HANOVER