

May 25, 2010

**S 1385. STUDY/WATER QUALITY COST SHARE.** Filed 5/25/10. *TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON WATER QUALITY COST SHARE.*

Appropriates \$50,000 for 2010-11 from the General Fund to the General Assembly to be allocated to the Legislative Services Office to implement a study to be conducted by a new Legislative Study Commission on Water Quality Cost Share (Commission). Establishes the Commission, which consists of 18 members as follows: five members of the Senate, five members of the House, the Chair of the Environmental Management Commission or designee, the Director of the North Carolina Water Resources Research Institute, a representative of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, a representative of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, a professional engineer, a member knowledgeable about wildlife and fisheries, a member knowledgeable about water conservation and water quality, and the Chair of the State Water Infrastructure Commission. Specifies meeting, quorum, vacancy-filling requirements and professional staff and consultant provisions.

Requires the Commission to study the costs and benefits of improving water quality in reservoirs, rivers, and other water resources shared by local governments, including consideration of water quality issues, wastewater treatment requirements, and compliance costs and benefits for both upstream and downstream governments. Also requires consideration of possible alternatives to the current rate structure, treatment programs, and technology used with regard to water quality and wastewater treatment. Provides that the Commission must report its final findings and conclusions to the General Assembly no later than the convening of the 2011 General Assembly and shall terminate upon the earlier of the filing of the report or the convening of the 2011 General Assembly. Effective July 1, 2010.

**Intro. by McKissick.**

STUDY, APPROP