

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

**H.B 1051**  
**May 9, 2016**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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**HOUSE BILL DRH50008-RIz-27A\* (10/28)**

Short Title: Solid Waste Amendments.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Dixon and McGrady (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO (1) MAKE TECHNICAL, CLARIFYING, AND CONFORMING CHANGES TO PROVISIONS ENACTED IN 2015 TO ESTABLISH LIFE-OF-SITE PERMITS FOR SANITARY LANDFILLS AND TRANSFER STATIONS AND (2) PROVIDE THAT FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS PREVIOUSLY EXECUTED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SANITARY LANDFILLS MAY BE MODIFIED BY AGREEMENT OF ALL PARTIES TO LAST FOR A LANDFILL'S LIFE-OF-SITE, EXCEPT THAT NO FRANCHISE AGREEMENT, MODIFIED OR NEWLY EXECUTED, SHALL EXCEED A DURATION OF SIXTY YEARS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.(a)** Section 4.9(a) of S.L. 2015-286 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 4.9.(a)** Section 14.20(a) of S.L. 2015-241 ~~reads as rewritten:~~ is rewritten to read:  
...."

**SECTION 1.(b)** Section 4.9(b) of S.L. 2015-286 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 4.9.(b)** Section ~~14.20(a)~~14.20(c) of S.L. 2015-241 ~~reads as rewritten:~~ is rewritten to read:  
...."

**SECTION 1.(c)** Section 4.9(c) of S.L. 2015-286 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 4.9.(c)** Section 14.20(d) of S.L. 2015-241 ~~reads as rewritten:~~ is rewritten to read:  
...."

**SECTION 1.(d)** Section 4.9(d) of S.L. 2015-286 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 4.9.(d)** Section 14.20(f) of S.L. 2015-241 ~~reads as rewritten:~~ is rewritten to read:  
...."

**SECTION 1.(f)** Section 14.20(e) of S.L. 2015-241 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 14.20.(e)** After July 1, 2016, the annual fee due pursuant to ~~G.S. 130A-295.8A(d1);~~G.S. 130A-295.8(d1), as enacted by Section 14.20(c) of this act, for existing sanitary landfills and transfer stations with a valid permit issued before the date this act becomes effective is equal to the applicable annual fee for the facility as set forth in G.S. 130A-295.8A(d1), as enacted by Section 14.20(c) of this act, less a permittee fee credit. A permittee fee credit exists when the life-of-site permit fee amount is greater than the time-limited permit fee amount. The amount of the permittee fee credit shall be calculated by (i) subtracting the time-limited permit fee amount from the life-of-site permit fee amount due for the same period of time and (ii) multiplying the difference by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of years remaining in the facility's time-limited permit and the denominator of which is the total number of years covered by the facility's time-limited permit. The amount of the permittee fee



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1 credit shall be allocated in equal annual installments over the number of years that constitute the  
2 facility's remaining life-of-site, as determined by the Department, unless the Department  
3 accelerates, in its sole discretion, the use of the credit over a shorter period of time. For purposes  
4 of this subsection, the following definitions apply:

- 5 (1) Life-of-site permit fee amount. – The amount equal to the sum of all annual  
6 fees that would be due under the fee structure set forth in  
7 G.S. 130A-295.8A(d1), as enacted by Section 14.20(c) of this act, during the  
8 cycle of the facility's permit in effect on July 1, 2016.
- 9 (2) Time-limited permit fee amount. – The amount equal to the sum of the  
10 application fee or renewal fee, whichever is applicable, and all annual fees paid  
11 or to be paid pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of G.S. 130A-295.8A, as  
12 repealed by Section 14.20(c) of this act, during the cycle of the facility's permit  
13 in effect on July 1, 2016.

14 The Department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection."

15 **SECTION 2.(a)** Section 14.20(f) of S.L. 2015-241, as amended by Section 4.9(d) of  
16 S.L. 2015-286, reads as rewritten:

17 "**SECTION 14.20.(f)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2015. G.S. 130A-294(b1)(2),  
18 as amended by subsection (a) of this section, applies to franchise ~~agreements~~ agreements (i)  
19 executed on or after October 1, 2015, and (ii) executed on or before October 1,  
20 2015, only if all parties to the agreement consent to modify the agreement for the purpose of  
21 extending the agreement's duration to the life-of-site of the landfill for which the agreement was  
22 executed. The remainder of G.S. 130A-294, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, and  
23 G.S. 130A-295.8, as amended by subsection (c) of this section, apply to (i) existing sanitary  
24 landfills and transfer stations, with a valid permit issued before the date this act becomes effective,  
25 on July 1, 2016, at which point a permittee may choose to apply for a life-of-site permit pursuant  
26 to G.S. 130A-294(a2), as amended by Section 14.20(b) of this act, or may choose to apply for a  
27 life-of-site permit for the facility when the facility's permit is next subject to renewal after July 1,  
28 2016, (ii) new sanitary landfills and transfer stations, for applications submitted on or after July 1,  
29 2016, and (iii) applications for sanitary landfills or transfer stations submitted before July 1, 2015,  
30 and pending on the date this act becomes law shall be evaluated by the Department based on the  
31 applicable laws that were in effect on July 1, 2015, and the Department shall not delay in  
32 processing such permit applications in consideration of changes made by this act, but such  
33 landfills and transfer stations shall be eligible for issuance of life-of-site permits pursuant to  
34 G.S. 130A-294(a2), as amended by Section 14.20(b) of this act, on July 1, 2016, at which point a  
35 permittee may choose to apply for a life-of-site permit pursuant to G.S. 130A-294(a2), as amended  
36 by Section 14.20(b) of this act, or may choose to apply for a life-of-site permit for the facility  
37 when the facility's permit is next subject to renewal after July 1, 2016."

38 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 130A-294(b1)(2) reads as rewritten:

39 "(2) A person who intends to apply for a new permit for a sanitary landfill shall  
40 obtain, prior to applying for a permit, a franchise for the operation of the  
41 sanitary landfill from each local government having jurisdiction over any part  
42 of the land on which the sanitary landfill and its appurtenances are located or to  
43 be located. A local government may adopt a franchise ordinance under  
44 G.S. 153A-136 or G.S. 160A-319. A franchise granted for a sanitary landfill  
45 ~~shall~~ shall (i) be granted for the life-of-site of the landfill and shall  
46 for a period not to exceed 60 years and (ii) include all of the following:

- 47 a. A statement of the population to be served, including a description of  
48 the geographic area.
- 49 b. A description of the volume and characteristics of the waste stream.
- 50 c. A projection of the useful life of the sanitary landfill.
- 51 d. Repealed by Session Laws 2013-409, s. 8, effective August 23, 2013.

- 1 e. The procedures to be followed for governmental oversight and  
 2 regulation of the fees and rates to be charged by facilities subject to the  
 3 franchise for waste generated in the jurisdiction of the franchising  
 4 entity.
- 5 f. A facility plan for the sanitary landfill that shall include the boundaries  
 6 of the proposed facility, proposed development of the facility site, the  
 7 boundaries of all waste disposal units, final elevations and capacity of  
 8 all waste disposal units, the amount of waste to be received per day in  
 9 tons, the total waste disposal capacity of the sanitary landfill in tons, a  
 10 description of environmental controls, and a description of any other  
 11 waste management activities to be conducted at the facility. In addition,  
 12 the facility plan shall show the proposed location of soil borrow areas,  
 13 leachate facilities, and all other facilities and infrastructure, including  
 14 ingress and egress to the facility."

15 **SECTION 2.(c)** G.S. 160A-319(a) reads as rewritten:

16 **"§ 160A-319. Utility franchises.**

17 (a) A city shall have authority to grant upon reasonable terms franchises for a telephone  
 18 system and any of the enterprises listed in G.S. 160A-311, except a cable television system. A  
 19 franchise granted by a city authorizes the operation of the franchised activity within the city. No  
 20 franchise shall be granted for a period of more than 60 years, ~~except including a franchise granted~~  
 21 to a sanitary landfill for the life-of-site of the landfill pursuant to G.S. 130A-294(b1); provided,  
 22 however, that a franchise for solid waste collection or disposal systems and facilities-facilities,  
 23 other than sanitary landfills, shall not be granted for a period of more than 30 years. Except as  
 24 otherwise provided by law, when a city operates an enterprise, or upon granting a franchise, a city  
 25 may by ordinance make it unlawful to operate an enterprise without a franchise."

26 **SECTION 2.(d)** G.S. 153A-136 reads as rewritten:

27 **"§ 153A-136. Regulation of solid wastes.**

28 (a) A county may by ordinance regulate the storage, collection, transportation, use,  
 29 disposal, and other disposition of solid wastes. Such an ordinance may:

30 ...

- 31 (3) Grant a franchise to one or more persons for the exclusive right to  
 32 commercially collect or dispose of solid wastes within all or a defined portion  
 33 of the county and prohibit any other person from commercially collecting or  
 34 disposing of solid wastes in that area. The board of commissioners may set the  
 35 terms of any ~~franchise, except that no franchise may be granted for a period~~  
 36 ~~exceeding 30 years, nor may any franchise; provided, however, no franchise~~  
 37 shall be granted for a period of more than 30 years, except for a franchise  
 38 granted to a sanitary landfill for the life-of-site of the landfill pursuant to  
 39 G.S. 130A-294(b1), which may not exceed 60 years. No franchise by its terms  
 40 may impair the authority of the board of commissioners to regulate fees as  
 41 authorized by this section.

42 ...."

43 **SECTION 2.(e)** This section applies to franchise agreements (i) executed on or after  
 44 October 1, 2015, and (ii) executed on or before October 1, 2015, only if all parties to the  
 45 agreement consent to modify the agreement for the purpose of extending the agreement's duration  
 46 of the life-of-site of the landfill for which the agreement was executed.

47 **SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective retroactively to July 1,  
 48 2015.