

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL DRS45223-LM-103A

Short Title: Local Tree Ordinances Authorized. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Mayfield and Woodard (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AUTHORIZING COUNTIES AND CITIES TO ADOPT ORDINANCES
3 PROVIDING STANDARDS FOR THE PRESERVATION OR REPLACEMENT OF
4 TREES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Part 3 of Article 13 of Chapter 160D of the General Statutes is amended
7 by adding a new section to read as follows:

8 "**§ 160D-1321. Tree preservation or replacement.**

9 (a) A local government may adopt ordinances to provide standards for the preservation
10 or replacement of trees on public and private property within its jurisdictional limits because of
11 their contribution to (i) the health of its citizens in improved air and water quality, (ii) the control
12 of flooding, noise, glare, and soil erosion, (iii) the protection of urban wildlife, (iv) the
13 maintaining and increasing of property values, and (v) the beauty of its overall landscape. If the
14 local government is a city, the ordinance shall also apply within the city's extraterritorial
15 jurisdiction under G.S. 160D-202. For purposes of this section, the term "local government"
16 means a county or city.

17 (b) Before adopting or amending an ordinance adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
18 section, the governing body of the local government shall hold a hearing to receive public
19 comment. Notice of the hearing shall be given once a week for two successive calendar weeks
20 prior to the date of the hearing in a newspaper having general circulation in the jurisdictional
21 limits of the local government."

22 SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

