



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

**North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services**
Legal Affairs

Tina L. Hlabse
General Counsel

To: Members of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

From: North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services/NC
Board of Agriculture

Date: April 14, 2014

Subject: Report to Gov Ops

Pursuant to G.S. 12-3.1, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is reporting to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the increase of admission fees of the annual North Carolina State Fair.

Background

The N.C. State Fair sought an increase in admission prices beginning with the 2013 State Fair. S.L. 2013-360 section 13.6 granted the Board of Agriculture a one-time waiver of the rules to enact a fee increase. We are now seeking to make permanent this fee increase by codifying these changes into the Administrative Code. The current admission prices are:

- \$9 adult gate admission (\$1 increase from rates established in 2010)
- \$7 advance adult gate admission (\$1 increase from rates established in 2010)
- \$4 child gate admission (\$1 increase from rates established in 2010)
- \$3 child advance (\$1 increase from rates established in 2010)

Explanation

The State Fair, being an enterprise fund, relies on revenues from the State Fair and year round events to fund all expenses. The Fair faces the challenge of meeting rising payroll, utility, environmental and material expenses, all while dedicating monies yearly to capital improvements on the campus. The proposed increases will help maintain the necessary monies to meet these expenses, while offering the public ways to save money through advance purchase of tickets.