

Britt Cobb Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

David S. McLeod General Counsel

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

FROM: David S. McLeod

General Counsel

DATE: September 14, 2004

RE: State Fairgrounds Facility Rental Rates

On August 17, 2004, the Board of Agriculture adopted the attached schedule of rental rates for use of facilities at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

The changes are scheduled to become effective January 1, 2005, pending consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, pursuant to G.S. 12-3.1.

The statutory authority for setting these rates is G.S. 106-6.1, which provides that, "The Board of Agriculture, subject to the provisions of Chapter 146 of the General Statutes, may establish a rate schedule for the use of facilities operated by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services."

The Board of Agriculture has a policy of reviewing facility rental rates on a biennial basis, and to make adjustments when necessary.

These rates are for short term use of Fairgrounds facilities for events such as concerts, trade shows, boat shows, wildlife and gun shows, and private functions. The State Fairgrounds is operated as an enterprise fund, and receives no General Fund appropriations. These increases are needed to cover increased operating costs, repairs and improvements, and to obtain fair market value for use of state facilities.

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