

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**BILL DRAFT 2007-TAz-19 [v.7] (05/14)**

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)  
5/18/2008 5:21:15 PM**

Short Title: Extend Water Allocation Study.

(Public)

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Sponsors: .

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE STUDY OF THE ALLOCATION OF WATER  
RESOURCES AND THEIR AVAILABILITY AND MAINTENANCE IN THE  
STATE, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW  
COMMISSION.

Whereas, the Environmental Review Commission and The University of North  
Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Government acknowledge that an extension of time is  
necessary in order to complete the work of the Water Allocation Study contemplated in  
the contract between the two parties and the work identified in Section 1.(a) of S.L.  
2007-518; and

Whereas, The University of North Carolina School of Government acknowledges  
in its Interim Report to the Environmental Review Commission that further work will  
be required beyond 2008 given the scope and importance of the study;

Now therefore,  
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1.(a) of S.L. 2007-518 reads as rewritten:

**"SECTION 1.(a)** The Environmental Review Commission, with the  
assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, shall study the  
allocation of surface water resources and their availability and maintenance in the State,  
including issues related to the transfer of water from one river basin to another, the  
withdrawal of water for consumptive use, and the accuracy and tolerance of equipment  
used to measure the flow of water transferred from one river basin to another river  
basin. The Commission shall evaluate the benefits of establishing formal and informal  
procedures for negotiating transfers of water from one river basin to another. The  
Commission shall also study and recommend measures to: (i) ensure that the purposes  
of the Regional Water Supply Planning Act of 1971, as set out in G.S. 162A-21, are  
fulfilled; (ii) provide for a comprehensive system for regulating surface water

1 withdrawals for consumptive and nonconsumptive uses; (iii) provide for the  
2 establishment of a statewide plan for water resources development projects; (iv)  
3 provide for adequate resources for the Department so that it may develop and  
4 implement a comprehensive approach to water resources management; (v) ensure that  
5 all State laws regulating water resources are consistent with and fully integrated into the  
6 comprehensive system for regulating surface water withdrawals and the statewide plan  
7 for water resources development projects; and (vi) ensure that potential interstate  
8 conflicts related to water resources are avoided or minimized. In the conduct of this  
9 study, the Environmental Review Commission may employ independent consultants as  
10 provided in G.S. 120-32.02 and G.S. 120-70.44. The Environmental Review  
11 Commission may submit ~~an interim report~~ reports to the 2008 ~~and 2009 Regular Session~~  
12 regular sessions of the General Assembly and shall submit a final report of its findings  
13 and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the ~~2009~~ General  
14 Assembly on or before 1 October 2010."

15 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.