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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION AND
TO ESTABLISH THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COUNCIL¹

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Commission Established; Membership. - The Global Climate Change Commission is hereby established. The Commission shall consist of not more than 21 members as follows:

- (1) Seven members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (2) Seven members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3) Seven executive office representatives appointed by the Governor.

SECTION 2. Co-chairs. – The Commission shall have two co-chairs, one designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from among their respective appointees. The Commission shall meet upon the call of the co-chairs.

SECTION 3. Quorum. – A quorum of the Commission shall consist of 11 members.

SECTION 4. Vacancies. – Any vacancy on the Commission shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

SECTION 5. Powers and Duties. – The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To evaluate all issues related to global climate change for the State. This examination shall include all of the following:

- (a) Actions taken by the federal government and by other states and nations to address global warming.

¹ Some useful references:

LCGCC established and extended:

<http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/DocumentSites/browseDocSite.asp?nID=14&sFolderName=\Authorizing%20Legislation>;

Coastal Resources Commission established:

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_113A/GS_113A-104.pdf;

Coastal Resources Advisory Council established:

http://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/pdf/bysection/chapter_113a/gs_113a-105.pdf;

ERC established:

<http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/committees/ERC/Authorizing%20Legislation/Authorizing%20Legislation.pdf>.

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(b) Economic opportunities for the State that may result from international, national, and State action to address global climate change and the emerging carbon market.

(c) Existing and potential impacts of global climate change on the citizens, natural resources, and economy of the State, including public health, agriculture, travel and tourism, recreation, coastal real estate, insurance, and other economic sectors.

(d) The impact to the global climate of any action taken by the State.

(e) The costs of any action taken by the State to address global climate change on individuals, individual households, local governments, businesses, educational institutions, agricultural operations, the State government, and other institutions and economic sectors.

(f) The benefits of any action taken by or within the State or other states and at the national or international levels to address global climate change on individuals, individual households, local governments, businesses, educational institutions, agricultural operations, the State government, and other institutions and economic sectors.

2. To review and evaluate changes in federal law and regulations, relevant court decisions, and changes in technology affecting global climate change;
3. To review existing and proposed State law and rules affecting global climate change and to determine whether any modification of law or rules is in the public interest;
4. To make reports and recommendations, including draft legislation, to the General Assembly from time to time as to any matter relating to the powers and duties set out in this section; and
5. To undertake such additional studies as it deems appropriate or as may from time to time be requested by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Governor, and to make such reports and recommendations to the General Assembly regarding such studies as it deems appropriate; provided that the Global Climate Change Commission shall not undertake any study which the General Assembly has assigned to another legislative commission or committee.

SECTION 6. Additional Duties. – The Commission may work cooperatively with the Global Climate Change Advisory Council and other State agencies with respect to the agencies' areas of responsibilities regarding greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

SECTION 7. Compensation. – Members of the Global Climate Change Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1.

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SECTION 8. Staff. – Upon the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional staff to the Commission to aid in its work.

SECTION 9. Consultants. – The Commission may hire consultants to assist with its evaluations as provided in G.S. 120-32.02(b).

SECTION 10. Meetings. – The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission.

SECTION 11. Funding. – From funds appropriated to the General Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission shall allocate funds for the functions of the Global Climate Change Commission.

SECTION 12. Global Climate Change Advisory Council. - The Global Climate Change Advisory Council is hereby established. The Advisory Council shall consist of not more than 16 members designated as follows:

- (1) The President of Duke Power or the President's designee.
- (2) The President of Progress Energy or the President's designee.
- (3) The President of the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry or the President's designee.
- (4) The President of the Manufacturers and Chemical Industry Council of North Carolina or the President's designee.
- (5) The President of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation or the President's designee.
- (6) The President of the North Carolina Forestry Association or the President's designee.
- (7) The Southeast Director of Climate and Air Policy for Environmental Defense Fund or the Director's designee.
- (8) The Executive Director of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy or the Executive Director's designee.
- (9) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Coastal Federation or the Executive Director's designee.
- (10) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Conservation Council or the Executive Director's designee.
- (11) The Dean of the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, Duke University, or the Dean's designee.
- (12) The Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University or the Dean's designee.

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(13) The Dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University or the Dean's designee.

(14) The Director of the Institute for the Environment at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill or the Director's designee.

(15) The Distinguished Research Professor (with expertise in sea level change), Department of Geology at East Carolina University.

(16) The North Carolina State Climatologist.

SECTION 13. Functions and Duties. – The Advisory Council shall assist the Global Climate Change Commission in an advisory capacity:

(1) On matters which may be submitted to it by the Commission, including technical questions relating to the development of legislation, and

(2) On such other matters arising under this Article as the Commission considers appropriate.

SECTION 14. Multiple Offices. – Membership on the Global Climate Change Advisory Council is hereby declared to be an office that may be held concurrently with other elective or appointive offices (except the office of Commission member) in addition to the maximum number of offices permitted to be held by one person under G.S. 128-1.1.

SECTION 15. Chairman and Vice-Chairman. – A chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected annually by the Advisory Council.

SECTION 16. Expenses of Members. – Members of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances in accordance with G.S. 138-5 or 138-6, as appropriate.

SECTION 17. Effective Date. – This act is effective when it becomes law.