



SENATE BILL 465: Cities/Remove & Dispose of Abandoned Vessels.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Local Government. If favorable, re- refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 23, 2023
Introduced by:	Sen. Lazzara	Prepared by:	Nicholas Giddings
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 465 would expand authority over the removal and disposal of abandoned vessels from coastal counties to all counties and grant that same authority to cities.*

CURRENT LAW & BILL ANALYSIS:

G.S. 153A-132(i) grants to the 20 coastal counties covered under the Coastal Area Management Act of 1974 (CAMA) authority to adopt ordinances to prohibit the abandonment of vessels within the navigable waters of the county's ordinance-making jurisdiction and provide for the removal and disposal of abandoned vessels.

This authority over abandoned vessels does not extend to shipwrecks, vessels, cargoes, tackle, or other underwater archeological remains that have been in place for more than 10 years, which cannot be removed without the approval of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, the legal owner of such historical properties.

Section 1 would expand that authority to all counties in the State, not just those coastal counties covered under CAMA.

Section 2 would grant that same authority to cities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective when it becomes law and would not invalidate any local acts authorizing ordinances regulating the removal and disposal of vessels from navigable waters or any ordinances that were adopted under that authority before this act becomes law.

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