

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

H

D

HOUSE DRH50393-LD-131C* (5/19)

Short Title: Funds to Track Greenhouse Gases Emissions. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gibson and Tolson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO GLOBAL WARMING INITIATIVES, A
3 NONPROFIT CORPORATION THAT ENCOURAGES INDUSTRIES TO
4 REDUCE THEIR EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES AND TO
5 VOLUNTARILY REPORT THEIR EMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION IN A
6 REGISTRY TO BE PUBLISHED EVERY YEAR BY GLOBAL WARMING
7 INITIATIVES.

8 Whereas, in 1995 the United States Department of Energy and the United States
9 Environmental Protection Agency established a pilot program whereby industries were
10 encouraged to reduce greenhouse gases emissions, to increase energy and process
11 efficiency, and to voluntarily report their greenhouse gases emissions for publication so
12 that these emissions could be monitored; and

13 Whereas, in 2001, thirty-six North Carolina facilities voluntarily provided data
14 on their greenhouse gases emissions, more than any other state that year; and

15 Whereas, the federally sponsored pilot program ended June 30, 2001; and

16 Whereas, the State Energy Office of the Department of Administration provided
17 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2001-2002 fiscal year to support the
18 continuation of the efforts of the pilot program; however, these funds were not
19 continued for the 2002-2003 fiscal year due to the State's budget crisis and the lack of
20 matching funds; and

21 Whereas, in 2003, Global Warming Initiatives was incorporated as a nonprofit
22 corporation for the purpose of continuing the efforts begun by the federally sponsored
23 pilot program; Now, therefore,

24 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

25 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to Global
26 Warming Initiatives the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the

1 2004-2005 fiscal year, to be used to assist Global Warming Initiatives, a nonprofit
2 corporation, to do all of the following:

- 3 (1) Encourage industries to reduce greenhouse gases emissions, to
4 increase energy and process efficiency, and to voluntarily report their
5 greenhouse gases emissions for publication.
- 6 (2) Publish at least once each calendar year a registry of the data collected
7 from industries under subdivision (1) of this section.
- 8 (3) Recruit additional industries to report their greenhouse gases
9 emissions.
- 10 (4) Study ways to promote wider participation by industry in the voluntary
11 reporting of greenhouse gases emissions, including consideration of
12 the advisability of mandating industry to report these emissions.
- 13 (5) Conduct seminars across the State to inform industry on the activities
14 of Global Warming Initiatives and the benefits of industry
15 participation in its reporting program.
- 16 (6) Continue working with units of local government that participate in the
17 International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, in which the
18 City of Durham, the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and Orange
19 County currently participate.
- 20 (7) Study the feasibility and desirability of promoting the use in North
21 Carolina of a cap and trade program whereby industries that emit less
22 than a maximum allowed level of greenhouse gases receive credit that
23 may be traded to industries that emit more than that level.
- 24 (8) No later than December 1, 2005, report to the State Energy Office of
25 the Department of Administration, the Environmental Review
26 Commission, and the Fiscal Research Division, which report shall
27 include an itemized account of how the funds appropriated by this act
28 were used, how Global Warming Initiatives accomplished the
29 activities specified under this section, the success of each activity, and
30 any findings or recommendations regarding these activities in reducing
31 greenhouse gases emissions.

32 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.