GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2001

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SENATE BILL 774

Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee Substitute Adopted 4/24/01

Short Title: Public Enterprise Customer Billing Privacy. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 2, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PRIVACY OF BILLING INFORMATION OF CUSTOMERS OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 132-1.2 reads as rewritten:

"**§ 132-1.2. Confidential information.**

Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to require or authorize a public agency or its subdivision to disclose any information that:

(1) Meets all of the following conditions:

a. Constitutes a "trade secret" as defined in G.S. 66-152(3).

b. Is the property of a private "person" as defined in G.S. 66-152(2).

c. Is disclosed or furnished to the public agency in connection with the owner's performance of a public contract or in connection with a bid, application, proposal, industrial development project, or in compliance with laws, regulations, rules, or ordinances of the United States, the State, or political subdivisions of the State.

d. Is designated or indicated as "confidential" or as a "trade secret" at the time of its initial disclosure to the public agency.

(2) Reveals an account number for electronic payment as defined in G.S. 147-86.20 and obtained pursuant to Articles 6A or 6B of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes or G.S. 159-32.1.

<u>(3) Reveals billing information related to customers of public enterprises.</u>"

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