GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2011

S SENATE BILL 229

Short Title:	Transfer DENR Soil & Water to DACS.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senators East, Rouzer, and Jackson.	
Referred to:	Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.	

March 8, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO TRANSFER THE DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION AND THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

 SECTION 1.(a) The Division of Soil and Water Conservation is transferred from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services with all the elements of a Type I transfer, as defined by G.S. 143A-6.

SECTION 1.(b) All functions, powers, duties, and obligations previously vested in the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission are transferred to and vested in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by a Type II transfer, as defined in G.S. 143A-6.

SECTION 2.(a) G.S. 143B-279.3(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) All functions, powers, duties, and obligations previously vested in the following subunits of the following departments are transferred to and vested in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources by a Type I transfer, as defined in G.S. 143A-6:

(10) Soil and Water Conservation Division, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

SECTION 2.(b) G.S. 143B-279.3(b) reads as rewritten:

- "(b) All functions, powers, duties, and obligations previously vested in the following commissions, boards, councils, and committees of the following departments are transferred to and vested in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources by a Type II transfer, as defined in G.S. 143A-6:
 - (21) State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.
- **SECTION 3.** Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is recodified as Article 71 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes, and accordingly G.S. 143B-294 through G.S. 143B-297.1 are recodified as G.S. 106-840 through G.S. 106-844.
- **SECTION 4.** G.S. 106-840, as recodified by Section 3 of this act, reads as rewritten:



"§ 106-840. Soil and Water Conservation Commission – creation; powers and duties; compliance inspections.

- (a) There is hereby created the Soil and Water Conservation Commission of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services with the power and duty to adopt rules to be followed in the development and implementation of a soil and water conservation program.
 - (1) The Soil and Water Conservation Commission has all of the following powers and duties:
 - a. To approve petitions for soil conservation districts.
 - b. To approve application for watershed plans.
 - c. Such other duties as specified in Chapter 139.
 - d. To conduct any inspections in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.
 - (2) The Commission shall adopt rules consistent with the provisions of this Chapter. All rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this Chapter heretofore adopted by the Soil and Water Conservation Committee shall remain in full force and effect unless and until repealed or superseded by action of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. All rules adopted by the Commission shall be enforced by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (b) An employee or agent of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission or the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services may enter property, with the consent of the owner or person having control over property, at reasonable times for the purposes of investigating compliance with Commission or Department programs when the investigation is reasonably necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission. If the Commission or Department is unable to obtain the consent of the owner of the property, the Commission or Department may obtain an administrative search warrant pursuant to G.S. 15-27.2.
- (c) Any person who refuses entry or access to property by an employee or agent of the Commission or the Department or who willfully resists, delays, or obstructs an employee or agent of the Commission or the Department while the employee or agent is in the process of carrying out official duties after the employee or agent has obtained the consent of the owner or person having control of the property or, if consent is not obtained, after the employee or agent has obtained an administrative search warrant, shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor."

SECTION 5. G.S. 106-841(a), as recodified by Section 3 of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Soil and Water Conservation Commission of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services shall be composed of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Commission shall be composed of the following members:

SECTION 6. G.S. 139-3(4) reads as rewritten:

"(4) "Commission" or "Soil and Water Conservation Commission" means the Soil and Water Conservation Commission created by G.S. 143B-294.106-840."

SECTION 7. G.S. 139-4(d) reads as rewritten:

- "(d) In addition to the duties and powers hereinafter conferred upon the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, it shall have the following duties and powers:
 - (9) To create, implement, and supervise the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control created pursuant to Part 9 of Article 21

of Chapter 143 Article 72 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes and the Community Conservation Assistance Program created pursuant to Part 11 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

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- (10) To review and approve or disapprove the application of a district supervisor for a grant under the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control or the Community Conservation Assistance Program as provided by G.S. 139-8(b).

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(11) To develop and implement a program for the approval of water quality and animal waste management systems technical specialists.

11 12 (12) To develop and approve best management practices for the Agriculture Cost

Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control and for use in the
water quality protection programs of the Department of Environment and
Natural Resources and to adopt rules that establish criteria governing
approval of these best management practices."

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SECTION 8. G.S. 139-4(e) reads as rewritten:

16 17 18 "(e) A member of the Commission may apply for and receive a grant under the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control and the Community Conservation Assistance Program if:

19 20 (1) The member does not vote on the application or attempt to influence the outcome of any action on the application; and

21 22 (2) The application is approved by the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources. Commissioner of Agriculture."

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SECTION 9. G.S. 139-5(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services shall pay all expenses for the issuance of such notices and the conduct of such hearings and referenda, and shall supervise the conduct of such hearings and referenda. It shall issue appropriate regulations governing the conduct of such hearings and referenda, and providing for the registration prior to the date of the referendum of all eligible voters, or prescribing some other appropriate procedure for the determination of those eligible as voters in such referendum. No informality in the conduct of such referendum or in any matters relating thereto shall invalidate said referendum or the result thereof if notice thereof shall have been given substantially as herein provided and said referendum shall have been fairly conducted."

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SECTION 10. G.S. 139-5(e) reads as rewritten:

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The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services shall publish the results of such referendum and shall thereafter consider and determine whether the operation of the district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible. If the Commission shall determine that the operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and deny the petition. If the Commission shall determine that the operation of such district is administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such in the manner hereinafter provided. In making such determination the Commission shall give due regard and weight to the attitudes of the occupiers of lands lying within the defined boundaries, the number of land occupiers eligible to vote in such referendum who shall have voted, the proportion of the votes cast in such referendum in favor of the creation of the district to the total number of votes cast, the approximate wealth and income of the land occupiers of the proposed district, the probable expense of carrying on erosion control operations within such district, and such other economic and social factors as may be relevant to such determination, having due regard to the legislative determination set forth in G.S. 139-2: Provided, however, that the Commission shall not have authority to determine that the operations of the proposed district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible unless at least a majority of the votes cast in the

referendum upon the proposition of creation of the district shall have been cast in favor of the creation of such district."

SECTION 11. G.S. 139-7 reads as rewritten:

"§ 139-7. District board of supervisors – appointive members; organization of board; certain powers and duties.

The governing body of a soil and water conservation district shall consist of the three elective supervisors from the county or counties in the district, together with the appointive members appointed by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission pursuant to this section, and shall be known as the district board of supervisors. When a district is composed of less than four counties, the board of supervisors of each county shall on or before October 31, 1978, and on or before October 31 as the terms of the appointive supervisors expire, recommend in writing two persons from the district to the Commission to be appointed to serve with the elective supervisors. If the names are not submitted to the Commission as required, the office shall be deemed vacant on the date the term is set to expire and the Commission shall appoint two persons of the district to the district board of supervisors to serve with the elected supervisors. The Commission shall make its appointments prior to or at the November meeting of the Commission. Appointive supervisors shall take office on the first Monday in December following their appointment. Such appointive supervisors shall serve for a term of four years, and thereafter, as their terms expire, their successors shall serve for a term of four years. The terms of office of all appointive supervisors who have heretofore been lawfully appointed for terms the final year of which presently extends beyond the first Monday in December are hereby terminated on the first Monday in December of the final year of appointment. Vacancies for any reason in the appointive supervisors shall be filled for the unexpired term by the appointment of a person by the Commission from the district in which the vacancy occurs. Vacancies for any reason in the elected supervisors shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the Commission of a person from the county in the district in which the vacancy occurs.

In those districts composed of four or more counties, the Commission may, but is not required to, appoint two persons from the district without recommendation from the board of supervisors, to serve as district supervisors along with the elected members of the board of supervisors. Such appointments shall be made at the same time other appointments are made under this section, and the persons appointed shall serve for a term of four years.

The supervisors shall designate a chairman and may, from time to time, change such designation. A simple majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting the business of the board, and approval by a majority of those present shall be adequate for a determination of any matter before the board, provided at least a quorum is present. Supervisors of soil and water conservation districts shall be compensated for their services at the per diem rate and allowed travel, subsistence and other expenses, as provided for State boards, commissions and committees generally, under the provisions of G.S. 138-5; provided, that when per diem compensation and travel, subsistence, or other expense is claimed by any supervisor for services performed outside the district for which such supervisor ordinarily may be appointed or elected to serve, the same may not be paid unless prior written approval is obtained from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The supervisors may employ a secretary, technical experts, whose qualifications shall be approved by the Department, and such other employees as they may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties and compensation. The supervisors may call upon the Attorney General of the State for such legal services as they may require. The supervisors may delegate to their chairman, to one or more supervisors, or to one or more agents, or employees such powers and duties as they may deem proper. The supervisors shall furnish to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, upon request, copies of such ordinances, rules, regulations,

orders, contracts, forms, and other documents as they shall adopt or employ, and such other information concerning their activities as it may require in the performance of its duties under this Chapter.

The supervisors shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings and of all resolutions, regulations, and orders issued or adopted; and shall provide for an annual audit of the accounts of receipts and disbursements. In any given year, if the supervisors provide for an internal audit, and the supervisor serving as chairman certifies, under oath, that this internal audit is a true and accurate reflection of the accounts of receipts and disbursements, then the supervisors shall not be required, notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 159-34, to provide for an audit of the accounts of receipts and disbursements by a certified public accountant or by an accountant certified by the Local Government Commission. Any supervisor may be removed by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission upon notice and hearing, for neglect of duty, incompetence or malfeasance in office, but for no other reason.

The supervisors may invite the legislative body of any municipality or county located near the territory comprised within the district to designate a representative to advise and consult with the supervisors of the district on all questions of program and policy which may affect the property, water supply, or other interests of such municipality or county.

All district supervisors whose terms of office expire prior to the first Monday in January, 1948, shall hold over and remain in office until supervisors are elected or appointed and qualify as provided in this Chapter, as amended. The terms of office of all district supervisors, who have heretofore been elected or appointed for terms extending beyond the first Monday in January, 1948, are hereby terminated on the first Monday in January, 1948."

SECTION 12. G.S. 139-8(a)(13) reads as rewritten:

"(13) To assist the Commission in the implementation and supervision of the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control created pursuant to G.S. 143-215.74G.S. 106-850 and to assist in the implementation and supervision of any other program intended to protect water quality administered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services by providing technical assistance, allocating available grant monies, and providing any other assistance that may by be required or authorized by any provision of federal or State law."

SECTION 13. G.S. 139-13 reads as rewritten:

"§ 139-13. Discontinuance of districts.

At any time after five years after the organization of a district under the provisions of this Chapter, any 25 occupiers of land lying within the boundaries of such districts may file a petition with the Soil and Water Conservation Commission praying that the operations of the district be terminated and the existence of the district discontinued. The Commission may conduct such public meetings and public hearings upon such petition as may be necessary to assist it in the consideration thereof. Within 60 days after such a petition has been received by the Commission it shall give due notice of the holding of a referendum, and shall supervise such referendum, and issue appropriate regulations governing the conduct thereof, the question to be submitted by ballots upon which the words "For terminating the existence of the _____ (name of the soil and water conservation district to be here inserted)" and "Against terminating the existence of the _____ (name of the soil and water conservation district to be here inserted)" shall appear with a square before each proposition and a direction to insert an X mark in the square before one or the other of said propositions as the voter may favor or oppose discontinuance of such district. All occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the district shall be eligible to vote in such referendum. Only such land occupiers shall be eligible to vote.

No informalities in the conduct of such referendum or in any matters relating thereto shall invalidate said referendum or the result thereof if notice thereof shall have been given substantially as herein provided and said referendum shall have been fairly conducted.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Agriculture and Consumer Services shall publish the result of such referendum and shall thereafter consider and determine whether the continued operation of the district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible. If the Commission shall determine that the continued operation of such district is administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and deny the petition. If the Commission shall determine that the continued operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and shall certify such determination to the supervisors of the district. In making such determination the Commission shall give due regard and weight to the attitudes of the occupiers of lands lying within the district, the number of land occupiers eligible to vote in such referendum who shall have voted, the proportion of the votes cast in such referendum in favor of the discontinuance of the district to the total number of votes cast, the approximate wealth and income of the land occupiers of the district, the probable expense of carrying on erosion control operations within such district, and such other economic and social factors as may be relevant to such determination, having due regard to the legislative findings set forth in G.S. 139-2: Provided, however, that the Commission shall not have authority to determine that the continued operation of the district is administratively practicable and feasible unless at least a majority of the votes cast in the referendum shall have been cast in favor of the continuance of such district.

Upon receipt from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission of a certification that the Commission has determined that the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable and feasible, pursuant to the provisions of this section, the supervisors shall forthwith proceed to terminate the affairs of the district. The supervisors shall dispose of all property belonging to the district at public auction and shall pay over the proceeds of such sale to be covered into the State treasury. The supervisors shall thereupon file an application, duly verified, with the Secretary of State for the discontinuance of such district, and shall transmit with such application the certificates of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission setting forth the determination of the Commission that the continued operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible. The application shall recite that the property of the district has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over as in this section provided, and shall set forth a full accounting of such properties and proceeds of the sale. The Secretary of State shall issue to the supervisors a certificate of dissolution and shall record such certificate in an appropriate book of record in his office.

Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution under the provisions of this section, all ordinances and regulations theretofore adopted and in force within such districts shall be of no further force and effect. All contracts theretofore entered into, to which the district or supervisors are parties, shall remain in force and effect for the period provided in such contracts. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission shall be substituted for the district or supervisors as party to such contracts. The Commission shall be entitled to all benefits and subject to all liabilities under such contracts and shall have the same right and liability to perform, to require performance, to sue and be sued thereon, and to modify or terminate such contracts by mutual consent or otherwise as the supervisors of the district would have had. Such dissolution shall not affect the lien of any judgment entered under the provisions of G.S. 139-11, nor the pendency of any action instituted under the provisions of such section, and the Commission shall succeed to all the rights and obligations of the district or supervisors as to such liens and actions.

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission shall not entertain petitions for the discontinuance of any district nor conduct referenda upon such petitions, nor make

determinations pursuant to such petitions, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, 1 2 more often than once in five years." 3

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SECTION 14. G.S. 143-215.10A reads as rewritten:

"§ 143-215.10A. Legislative findings and intent.

The General Assembly finds that animal operations provide significant economic and other benefits to this State. The growth of animal operations in recent years has increased the importance of good animal waste management practices to protect water quality. It is critical that the State balance growth with prudent environmental safeguards. It is the intention of the State to promote a cooperative and coordinated approach to animal waste management among the agencies of the State with a primary emphasis on technical assistance to farmers. To this end, the General Assembly intends to establish a permitting program for animal waste management systems that will protect water quality and promote innovative systems and practices while minimizing the regulatory burden. Technical assistance, through operations reviews, will be provided by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Permitting, inspection, and enforcement will be vested in the Division of Water Quality."

SECTION 15. G.S. 143-215.10C(e)(6) reads as rewritten:

Provisions regarding periodic testing of waste products used as nutrient sources as close to the time of application as practical and at least within 60 days of the date of application and periodic testing, at least annually, of soils at crop sites where the waste products are applied. Nitrogen shall be a rate-determining element. Phosphorus shall be evaluated according to the nutrient management standard approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for facilities that are required to be permitted under 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 122, as amended at 73 Federal Register 70418 (November 20, 2008). If the evaluation demonstrates the need to limit the application of phosphorus in order to comply with the nutrient management standard, then phosphorus shall be a rate-determining element. Zinc and copper levels in the soils shall be monitored, and alternative crop sites shall be used when these metals approach excess levels."

SECTION 16. G.S. 143-215.10D reads as rewritten:

"§ 143-215.10D. Operations review.

- The Division, in cooperation with the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall develop a reporting procedure for use by technical specialists who conduct operations reviews of animal operations. The reporting procedure shall be consistent with the Division's inspection procedure of animal operations and with this Part. The report shall include any corrective action recommended by the technical specialist to assist the owner or operator of the animal operation in complying with all permit requirements. The report shall be submitted to the Division within 10 days following the operations review unless the technical specialist observes a violation described in G.S. 143-215.10E. If the technical specialist finds a violation described in G.S. 143-215.10E, the report shall be filed with the Division immediately.
- As part of its animal waste management plan, each animal operation shall have an operations review at least once a year. The operations review shall be conducted by a technical specialist employed by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, a local Soil and Water Conservation District, or the federal Natural Resources Conservation Services working under the direction of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

Operations reviews shall not be performed by technical specialists with a financial (c) interest in any animal operation."

SECTION 17. G.S. 143-215.10M(a) reads as rewritten:

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"(a) The Department shall report to the Environmental Review Commission and the Fiscal Research Division on or before 1 October of each year as required by this section. Each report shall include:

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rewritten:

- (2) The number of operations reviews of animal waste management systems that the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has conducted since the last report.
- The number of operations reviews of animal waste management systems conducted by agencies other than the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that have been conducted since the last report.
- The number of reinspections associated with operations reviews conducted (4) by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services since the last report.
- (5) The number of reinspections associated with operations reviews conducted by agencies other than the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services since the last report.

SECTION 18. Part 9 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is recodified as Article 72 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes, and accordingly G.S. 143-215.74, 143-215.74A, and 143-215.74B are recodified as G.S. 106-850, 106-851, and 106-852.

SECTION 19. G.S. 106-850(b)(9), as recodified under Section 18 of this act, reads as rewritten:

- "(9) When the applicant is either (i) a limited-resource farmer, (ii) a beginning farmer, or (iii) a person farming land that is located in an enhanced voluntary agricultural district and is subject to a conservation agreement under G.S. 106-743.2 that remains in effect, State funding shall be limited to ninety percent (90%) of the average cost for each practice with the assisted farmer providing ten percent (10%) of the cost, which may include in-kind support of the practice, with a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to each applicant. The following definitions apply in this subdivision:
 - Beginning farmer. A farmer who has not operated a farm or who has operated a farm for not more than 10 years and who will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm.
 - Enhanced voluntary agricultural district. A district established by a a1. county or a city by ordinance under Part 3 of Article 61 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes. this Chapter.

SECTION 20. G.S. 106-850(c), as recodified under Section 18 of this act, reads as rewritten:

The program shall be reviewed, prior to implementation, by the Committee created by G.S. 143-215.74B.G.S. 106-852. The Technical Review Committee shall meet quarterly to review the progress of this program."

SECTION 21. G.S. 106-850(e), as recodified under Section 18 of this act, reads as

 "(e) The Soil and Water Conservation Commission shall report on or before 31 January of each year to the Environmental Review CommissionBoard of Agriculture and the Fiscal Research Division. This report shall include a list of projects that received State funding pursuant to the program, the results of the evaluations conducted pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (b) of this section, findings regarding the effectiveness of each of these projects to accomplish its primary purpose, and any recommendations to assure that State funding is used in the most cost-effective manner and accomplishes the greatest improvement in water quality."

SECTION 22. Part 11 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is recodified as Article 73 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes, and accordingly G.S. 143-215.74M is recodified as G.S. 106-860.

SECTION 23. G.S. 106-860(a), as recodified under Section 22 of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(a) Program Established. – There is established the Community Conservation Assistance Program. The Program shall be implemented and supervised by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Commission of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services."

SECTION 24. G.S. 106-860(d), as recodified under Section 22 of this act, reads as rewritten:

- "(d) Advisory Committee. The Program shall be reviewed, prior to implementation, by the Community Conservation Assistance Program Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee shall meet quarterly to review the progress of the Program. The Advisory Committee shall consist of the following members:
 - (1) The Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or the Director's designee, who shall serve as the Chair of the Advisory Committee.
 - (2) The President of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts or the President's designee.
 - (3) The Director of the Cooperative Extension Service at North Carolina State University or the Director's designee.
 - (4) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners or the Executive Director's designee.
 - (5) The Executive Director of the North Carolina League of Municipalities or the Executive Director's designee.
 - (6) The State Conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture or the State Conservationist's designee.
 - (7) The Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission or the Executive Director's designee.
 - (8) The President of the North Carolina Conservation District Employees Association or the President's designee.
 - (9) The President of the North Carolina Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils or the President's designee.
 - (10) The Director of the Division of Water Quality of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or the Director's designee.
 - (11) The Director of the Division of Forest Resources of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or the Director's designee.
 - (12) The Director of the Division of Land Resources of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or the Director's designee.
 - (13) The Director of the Division of Coastal Management of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or the Director's designee.

- 1 (14) The Director of the Division of Water Resources of the Department of
 2 Environment and Natural Resources or the Director's designee.
 3 (15) The President of the Carolinas Land Improvement Contractors Association
 - The President of the Carolinas Land Improvement Contractors Association or the President's designee."

SECTION 25. G.S. 106-860(e), as recodified under Section 22 of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(e) Report. – The Soil and Water Conservation Commission shall report no later than 31 January of each year to the Environmental Review CommissionBoard of Agriculture and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include a summary of projects that received State funding pursuant to the Program, the results of the evaluation conducted pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of this section, findings regarding the effectiveness of each project to accomplish its primary purpose, and any recommendations to assure that State funding is used in the most cost-effective manner and accomplishes the greatest improvement in water quality."

SECTION 26. G.S. 113-291.10(a) reads as rewritten:

- "(a) There is established the Beaver Damage Control Advisory Board. The Board shall consist of nine members, as follows:
 - (4) The Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Agriculture and Consumer Services or a designee;

SECTION 27. G.S. 106-743.4(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) A person who farms land that is subject to a conservation agreement under G.S. 106-743.2 that remains in effect is eligible under G.S. 143-215.74(b)106-850(b) to receive the higher percentage of cost-share funds for the benefit of that farmland under the Agriculture Cost Share Program established pursuant to Part 9 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes Article 72 of this Chapter for funds to benefit that farmland."

SECTION 28. The Revisor of Statutes shall make the conforming statutory changes necessary to reflect the transfers under Section 1 of this act. The Revisor of Statutes may correct any reference in the General Statutes to the statutes that are recodified by this act and any other conforming changes necessitated by this act.

SECTION 29. This act becomes effective July 1, 2011.