

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

**SENATE BILL 430  
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO: (1) AMEND THE WILMINGTON CIVIL SERVICE ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE SITTING MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, BY MAJORITY VOTE, SHALL NAME ONE MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION AND PROVIDE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE MEMBER PREVIOUSLY NAMED BY THE WILMINGTON MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION; AND (2) CLARIFY AND EXPAND THE AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH TO REGULATE AND ENFORCE LAWS IN CAROLINA BEACH HARBOR AND THE SHORELINE AREA ADJOINING THE TOWN.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 11.1 of Article XI of the Charter of the City of Wilmington, being Chapter 495 of the 1977 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 342 of the 1981 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"ARTICLE XI. CIVIL SERVICE.

"**Sec. 11.1.** Civil Service Commission established. There is created a Civil Service Commission consisting of five members. Each member must be a citizen and a resident of the City of Wilmington. No member shall be an officer or employee of the city, or be a member of the immediate family of an employee of the city or a former employee of the police or fire department. Applicants to the Civil Service Commission shall complete the City of Wilmington Boards and Commissions application process.

The employees of the City of Wilmington Fire Department who are subject to this Article, by a majority vote, shall name one member. The employees of the City of Wilmington Police Department, who are subject to this Article, by a majority vote, shall name one member. The City Council of the City of Wilmington, by a majority vote, shall name one member. The New Hanover County Medical Society governing board, by a majority vote, shall name one member. ~~The Wilmington Ministerial Association governing body,~~ The sitting members of the Civil Service Commission, by a majority vote, shall name one member.

The members of the commission shall serve a term of three years unless removed by the appointing authority. A member may be removed by a majority vote of all members of the agency appointing that member.

A vacancy is caused by death, resignation, disqualification, or removal. A vacancy is filled by the agency authorized to name the member causing the vacancy. If the agency fails to fill the vacancy within 60 days after notification, the resident senior superior court judge of the judicial district that includes New Hanover County shall immediately fill the vacancy. Members appointed to fill a vacancy serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the member previously named by the Wilmington Ministerial Association governing body, shall be replaced with another member chosen by a majority vote of the sitting members of the Civil Service Commission. The member, who must complete the City of Wilmington Boards and Commissions application process, shall fill an at-large seat for a one-year term to run from August 1, 2010, through August 1, 2011.

The city council shall set the compensation for allowances, if any, to be paid the members of the commission. In November of each year, the commission shall elect a chairman and may elect other officers. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum. The commission may determine its own rules of procedure.

The city clerk shall be designated as permanent recording secretary to the Civil Service Commission. The recording secretary shall maintain the minutes of commission meetings and hearings, keep custody of commission records and notify members of meetings. The director of personnel shall act as an ex officio member of the commission representing the city on



personnel matters to be handled by the commission. The commission shall within a reasonable time, supply the director of personnel with notification of any actions, reports, or recommendations made by the commission. The personnel office shall notify affected police and fire department members of actions, reports and recommendations made by the commission."

**SECTION 2.(a)** Definitions. – The following definition applies to Sections 2.(a) to 2.(e) of this act:

- (1) "Shoreline area" means the land and water areas extending from the corporate boundaries of the Town of Carolina Beach to a distance of 200 yards in parallel lines from the corporate boundaries. This area includes Carolina Beach Harbor, the Municipal Marina, and Yacht Basin. This area does not include: (i) the shoreline areas along the Atlantic Ocean; (ii) the Intracoastal Waterway and all areas within its right-of-way; and (iii) any area within the corporate boundaries of another city or town organized pursuant to Chapter 160A of the General Statutes.

**SECTION 2.(b)** Purposes. – The purposes of Sections 2.(a) to 2.(e) of this act are to clarify and expand the authority of the Town of Carolina Beach to:

- (1) Operate and manage facilities in Carolina Beach Harbor, the Municipal Marina, and Yacht Basin.
- (2) Enforce navigation, boating, water safety, resource protection, recreation, and public safety laws in the shoreline area in cooperation and coordination with applicable local, State, and federal agencies.

**SECTION 2.(c)** Effect of ordinances in the shoreline area. – The Town may adopt ordinances pursuant to G.S. 160A-174 and extend applicable ordinances of the Town so that the ordinances have full force and effect in the shoreline area, subject to the limitation that in the event any ordinance adopted by the Town conflicts with a rule, regulation, or statute adopted by a county, State, or federal agency, then the county, State, or federal rule, regulation, or statute shall prevail over the Town ordinance to the extent of the conflict. The Town shall not adopt or extend an ordinance to apply to the shoreline area that would interfere or limit public trust rights of the people of the State or legal rights of access to such public trust areas in any way.

**SECTION 2.(d)** Police jurisdiction. – In addition to their authority within the corporate boundaries of the Town and as otherwise provided by law, Town law enforcement officers shall have authority to enforce ordinances adopted or extended pursuant to Section 2.(c) of this act in the shoreline area, subject to the limitations of their subject matter jurisdiction and any existing enforcement authority in those areas held by county, State, or federal agencies. The Town may also enter into enforcement and mutual aid agreements with county, State, and federal agencies to cooperatively enforce navigation, boating, water safety, resource protection, recreation, access, and public safety laws and regulations.

**SECTION 2.(e)** Additional powers. – The Town of Carolina Beach may:

- (1) Hire one or more special officers to serve as harbormaster and to patrol and enforce the laws in the Town and shoreline area. The harbormaster and other officers hired under this section may exercise all the powers of a law enforcement officer generally within the Town, shall be entitled to all powers, privileges, and immunities afforded by law to regularly employed law enforcement officers of the Town, and are subject to all provisions of law relating to law enforcement officers, including training requirements and the requirement that an officer must take the oath of office required of a law enforcement officer.
- (2) Own and operate facilities in the shoreline area, including: piers, docks, slips, quays, and bulkheads; boats and water transportation; moorings and mooring fields; boating safety equipment; dredging and channel maintenance equipment; boating access; and traffic control, navigational devices, lighting, and signage, subject to the limitations in G.S. 75A-15 and other applicable county, State, and federal laws.

**SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.  
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.

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Walter H. Dalton  
President of the Senate

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Joe Hackney  
Speaker of the House of Representatives