

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL DRH40312-MH-70A

Short Title: Study Flood Mitigation.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives White, McGrady, Bell, and Jones (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON
3 FLOODING MITIGATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** There is established the Joint Legislative Study Commission on
6 Flooding Mitigation (Commission).

7 **SECTION 2.** The Commission shall be composed of 10 members appointed as
8 follows:

9 (1) Five senators appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

10 (2) Five representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives.

12 Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled by the appointing authority. The
13 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each
14 designate a cochair. A quorum of the Commission shall be a majority of its members.

15 The Commission may meet at any time upon call of the chairs. The Commission may
16 meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. The Commission may
17 contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.

18 The Commission, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers
19 provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4, including the power
20 to request all officers, agents, agencies, and departments of the State to provide any information,
21 data, or documents within their possession, ascertainable from their records, or otherwise
22 available to them, and the power to subpoena witnesses and documents.

23 The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall
24 assign other professional staff to assist the Commission in its work. The House of
25 Representatives' and Senate's Directors of Legislative Assistants shall assign clerical staff to the
26 Commission, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by the
27 Commission. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the
28 rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1.

29 **SECTION 3.** The Commission, with the assistance of the North Carolina Office of
30 Recovery and Resiliency, shall study the efficacy, cost-effectiveness, and barriers to
31 implementation of projects that could prevent or mitigate the impacts of storm-related riverine
32 flooding in the State, including projects such as dikes, floodgates, spillways, floodwater bypass
33 channels, artificial reefs, and other engineered structures, as well as measures to enhance
34 floodwater absorption and retention measures such as wetlands and natural reef restoration.

35 **SECTION 4.** The Commission shall make an interim report to the 2020 Regular
36 Session of the 2019 General Assembly and shall make a final report to the 2021 General



1 Assembly. The report shall include any proposed legislation. The Commission shall terminate
2 upon filing its final report or upon the convening of the 2021 General Assembly, whichever is
3 earlier.

4 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.