

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE BILL 537*

Short Title: Marine Affairs/Ocean Affairs Council.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Stamey; Chapin, Gottovi, and Smith.

Referred to: State Government.

April 1, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ABOLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA MARINE SCIENCE COUNCIL,
2 TO CREATE THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON OCEAN AFFAIRS, AND
3 TO REQUIRE THE OFFICE OF MARINE AFFAIRS TO ADMINISTER THE
4 NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUMS.
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. Part 8 of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is
8 repealed.

9 Sec. 2. Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
10 adding a new Part to follow Part 8A to read:

11 **"PART 8B. NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON OCEAN AFFAIRS.**

12 **"§ 143B-390.10. North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs – creation; purpose;
13 powers; and duties.**

14 (a) The North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs is created. The Council shall
15 be administered by the Department of Administration.

16 (b) The Council shall serve as the central ocean and marine policy planning body
17 of the State and shall communicate and cooperate with federal, State, regional, and local
18 bodies and agencies to the end of effecting a coordinated ocean and marine policy.

19 (c) The Council shall have the following powers and duties:

20 (1) To encourage the use and study of the ocean and estuarine and coastal
21 waters of North Carolina by citizens and industries of the State;

22 (2) To encourage education and training in ocean science, technology, and
23 policy in North Carolina, including extension and continuing
24 education;

- 1 (3) To maintain liaison with the corresponding authorities of other coastal
2 states;
- 3 (4) To develop and maintain a continuing inventory of the ocean and
4 marine resources of the State;
- 5 (5) To assist in the coordination of efforts toward responsible development
6 of the State's ocean and marine resources with proper attention being
7 given to the need for wise use of these resources;
- 8 (6) To coordinate plans for and work with relevant governmental agencies
9 in the implementation of all federal, State, and local legislation relating
10 to ocean and marine resources;
- 11 (7) To examine research, education,* and management programs relating
12 to ocean and marine resources and to recommend revision when
13 appropriate;
- 14 (8) To secure directly from any executive department, agency,
15 subdivision, or independent instrumentality of State or local
16 governments any information it deems necessary to carry out its
17 functions;
- 18 (9) To review an annual update of activities of the North Carolina
19 Aquariums and to provide input into the mission and future programs
20 based on any North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs work that may
21 be applicable to the State Aquariums;
- 22 (10) To advise the Governor and Secretary of Administration upon any
23 matter the Governor or Secretary may refer to the North Carolina
24 Council on Ocean Affairs and to advise and make recommendations
25 on ocean and marine policy to the Governor; and
- 26 (11) To undertake any other duties assigned to it by the Governor or the
27 Secretary of Administration.

28 **"§ 143B-390.11. North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs—membership; terms;**
29 **rules of procedure; meetings; expenses.**

30 (a) The Council shall consist of 12 members, two of which shall serve ex officio,
31 from the public and private academic and scientific institutions in the State and from the
32 various industries and professions in the State concerned with the exploration and use of
33 the ocean and marine resources.

34 (b) The Governor shall appoint six members. These members shall represent the
35 following interests:

- 36 (1) One member from the field of ocean or coastal policy or law;
- 37 (2) One member from the field of coastal or marine ecology;
- 38 (3) One member from the field of coastal or ocean planning;
- 39 (4) One member from the field of commercial or recreational fisheries;
- 40 (5) One member from the fields of marine anthropology or sociology; and
- 41 (6) One member from a marine-related industry.

42 (c) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint two members. These
43 members shall represent the following interests:

- 44 (1) One member from a marine-related industry; and

1 (2) One member from the field of ocean or coastal policy or law.

2 (d) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members.
3 These members shall represent the following interests:

4 (1) One member from the field of commercial or recreational fisheries;
5 and

6 (2) One member from the field of marine or fishery economics.

7 (e) The Governor shall appoint two more members to serve ex officio. Ex officio
8 members shall have no vote. These members shall represent the following interests:

9 (1) One member from the Department of Environment, Health, and
10 Natural Resources who shall be an employee of the Department whose
11 responsibilities include coastal or marine matters; and

12 (2) One member from the Department of Economic and Community
13 Development who shall be an employee of the Department whose
14 responsibilities include ports or waterways.

15 (f) The initial terms shall begin October 1, 1991. To achieve staggered terms,
16 the initial terms for members appointed pursuant to subdivisions (b)(4) through (b)(6),
17 (c)(2), and (d)(2) shall expire September 30, 1993. The initial terms for members
18 appointed pursuant to subdivisions (b)(1) through (b)(3), (c)(1), and (d)(1) shall expire
19 September 30, 1995. Except for ex officio members, all succeeding terms for members
20 shall be four-year terms. Each ex officio member shall serve for an indefinite term at
21 the pleasure of the Governor.

22 (g) A vacancy shall occur automatically when a member or an ex officio member
23 ceases to qualify for his appointment under the terms of subsections (b) through (e). In
24 the event of a vacancy arising otherwise than by expiration of the term, the Governor
25 shall appoint a successor of like qualifications in accordance with subsections (b)
26 through (e). Except for an ex officio member, a successor member shall then serve the
27 remainder of his predecessor's term.

28 (h) The Governor shall designate a member of the Council to serve as the
29 Chairperson at the pleasure of the Governor.

30 (i) Membership on the North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs is an office that
31 may be held concurrently with other elective or appointive offices in addition to the
32 maximum number of offices permitted to be held by one person under G.S. 128-1.1.

33 (j) Any member of the Council may be removed from office in accordance with
34 the provisions of G.S. 143B-16.

35 (k) The Council shall adopt rules of procedure subject to the approval of the
36 Secretary of Administration. The Council may meet four times per year and at other
37 times if the Council obtains the prior approval of the Secretary of Administration.
38 Regular attendance at Council meetings is required. The rules of procedure developed
39 by the Council shall include rules for declaring any appointment on the Council to be
40 vacant for failure of a member to attend meetings or to otherwise perform his duty. A
41 majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

42 (l) Members of the Council other than ex officio members shall receive per diem
43 and necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S.
44 138-5."

1 Sec. 3. G.S. 143B-390.2 reads as rewritten:

2 "**§ 143B-390.2. Office of Marine Affairs – organization; powers and duties.**

3 (a) The Office shall be organized as prescribed by the Secretary of
4 Administration and exercise the following powers and duties:

5 (1) ~~To administer the operations of the three North Carolina Marine~~
6 ~~Resources Centers;~~

7 (1a) To establish and maintain the North Carolina Aquariums;

8 (1b) To administer the operations of the North Carolina Aquariums, such
9 administrative duties to include, but not be limited to the following:

10 a. Adopt goals and objectives for the Aquariums and review and
11 revise these goals and objectives periodically;

12 b. Review and approve requests for use of the Aquarium facilities
13 and advise the Secretary of Administration on the most
14 appropriate use consistent with the goals and objectives of the
15 Aquariums;

16 c. Continually review and evaluate the types of projects and
17 programs being carried out in the Aquarium facilities and
18 determine if the operation of the facilities is in compliance with
19 the established goals and objectives;

20 d. Recommend to the Secretary of Administration any policies and
21 procedures needed to assure effective staff performance and
22 proper liaison among Aquarium facilities in carrying out the
23 overall purposes of the Aquarium programs;

24 e. Review Aquarium budget submissions to the Secretary of
25 Administration;

26 f. Recruit and recommend to the Secretary of Administration
27 candidates for the positions of directors of the North Carolina
28 Aquariums; and

29 g. Create local advisory committees in accordance with the
30 provisions of G.S. 143B-390.4.

31 (2) ~~To provide~~ Provide staff to the North Carolina ~~Marine Science Council~~
32 Council on Ocean Affairs in furtherance of the Council's statutory
33 powers and duties;

34 (3) ~~To advise~~ Advise the Secretary of Administration regarding the
35 analysis, planning and implementation of current and future State and
36 federal goals, policies and programs relating to the ocean and marine
37 resources of North ~~Carolina;~~ Carolina, such duties to include, but not be
38 limited to, giving advice regarding:

39 (4) ~~To advise the Secretary of Administration in providing~~

40 a. Providing recommendations to other educational, informational
41 and policy-making bodies regarding marine and ocean resource
42 issues;

43 (5) ~~To review research proposals submitted for State matching funds for~~
44 ~~The University of North Carolina Sea Grant College Program;~~

1 ~~(6)~~ ~~To administer~~

2 b. Administering* the State Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Task
3 Force and coordinate State participation activities in the federal
4 outer continental shelf resource recovery programs as provided
5 under the OCS Lands Act Amendments of 1978 (43 USC §
6 1801); §§ 1801 et seq.) and the OCS Lands Act Amendments of
7 1986 (43 USC §§ 1331 et seq.); and

8 c. Coordinating necessary legal or technical research to carry out
9 the duties set forth in this subdivision.

10 (7) ~~To assume~~-Assume any other powers and duties assigned to it by the
11 Secretary.

12 (b) The Secretary may adopt any rules and procedures necessary to implement
13 this section."

14 Sec. 4. Part 8A of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is
15 amended by adding two new sections after G.S. 143B-390.2 to read:

16 "**§ 143B-390.3. North Carolina Aquariums; purpose.**

17 The purpose of establishing and maintaining the North Carolina Aquariums is to
18 promote an awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the diverse natural and
19 cultural resources associated with North Carolina's oceans, estuaries, rivers, streams,
20 and other aquatic environments.

21 "**§ 143B-390.4. Local advisory committees; duties; membership.**

22 Local advisory committees created pursuant to G.S. 143B-390.2(a)(1b) shall assist
23 each North Carolina Aquarium in its efforts to establish projects and programs and to
24 assure adequate citizen-consumer input into those efforts. Members of these
25 committees shall be appointed by the Secretary of Administration for three-year terms
26 from nominations made by the Director of the Office of Marine Affairs. Each
27 committee shall select one of its members to serve as chairperson. Members of the
28 committees shall serve without compensation for services or expenses."

29 Sec. 5. The equipment, records, documents, files, personnel, and
30 administrative rules of the North Carolina Marine Science Council are transferred to the
31 North Carolina Council on Ocean Affairs.

32 Sec. 6. This act becomes effective September 30, 1991.