#### SESSION 1991

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SENATE BILL 549

Short Title: Orange Impact Tax.

(Local)

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Sponsors: Senators Lee; and Walker.

Referred to: Local Government and Regional Affairs.

April 10, 1991

1		A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT AUTI	HORIZING ORANGE COUNTY TO CREATE A TAX DISTRICT
3	AND LEVY	IMPACT TAXES AND AMENDING ORANGE COUNTY'S
4	<b>AUTHORIT</b>	Y RELATING TO IMPACT FEES.
5	The General Ass	embly of North Carolina enacts:
6		TITLE I. IMPACT TAXES.
7		PART 1. DEFINITIONS.
8	Sectio	n 1. The following definitions apply to this Title.
9	(1)	Commercial building enclosed floor space. All enclosed floor space
10		used for any purpose except:
11		a. Dwelling units and accessory structures to dwelling units.
12		b. Recreational facilities constructed as part of a residential
13		development and used primarily by residents of the
14		development.
15		c. Buildings owned by the United States, the State of North
16		Carolina, any county or any municipal corporation.
17		d. Buildings owned and operated by nonprofit entities for
18		noncommercial and nonresidential purposes.
19		e. Schools or day care centers.
20	(2)	District. The Orange County Impact Tax District established by this
21		Title.
22	(3)	Dwelling unit. An enclosure containing sleeping, kitchen, and
23		bathroom facilities designed for and used or held ready for use as a
24		permanent residence by one family.

1	(4)	Land o	develop	oment.
2		a.	Land	development means:
3			1.	Construction of any dwelling unit (other than one
4				excluded under subsections (b) and (c) of this section)
5				for which a building permit was issued or should have
6				been issued after the effective date of an ordinance
7				adopted under this Title;
8			2.	Construction of any commercial building enclosed floor
9				space for which a building permit was issued or should
10				have been issued after the effective date of an ordinance
11				adopted under this Title;
12			3.	Conversion of a building that adds one or more new
13				dwelling units or that creates new commercial building
14				enclosed floor space; or
15			4.	The initial location of a manufactured home or other
16				dwelling or commercial structure within Orange County
17				for the school capital impact tax or within the District for
18				the District impact tax.
19		b.	For pi	urposes of determining the impact of land development for
20		0.		of this Title, land development does not include:
21			1.	Construction of an addition to a dwelling unit;
22			2.	The relocation within the District of any structure that
23			2.	was located within the District of the effective date of an
24				ordinance adopted pursuant to Part 2 of this Title or any
25				structure with respect to which an impact tax adopted
26				pursuant to Part 2 of this Title has been paid;
20 27			3.	Within the District, the reconstruction or replacement of
28			5.	one dwelling unit by another or the replacement or
29				reconstruction of commercial building enclosed floor
30				space that was in existence on the effective date of an
31				ordinance adopted pursuant to Part 2 of this Title or of
32				any such floor space with respect to which an impact tax
33				pursuant to Part 2 of this Title has been paid.
34		C.	For <b>n</b>	irposes of determining the impact of land development for
35		C.	-	of this Title, land development does not include:
36			1 art 5	Construction of an addition to a dwelling unit;
30			1. 2.	The relocation within Orange County of any structure
38			Δ.	that was located within the County on the effective date
38 39				
				of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Part 3 of this Title or
40				any structure with respect to which an impact tax
41			2	pursuant to Part 3 of this Title has been paid; Within the County, the reconstruction or replacement of
42			3.	Within the County, the reconstruction or replacement of
43				one dwelling unit by another or the replacement or
44				reconstruction of commercial building enclosed floor

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	space that was in existence on the effective date of an
	ordinance adopted pursuant to Part 3 or of this Title or of
	any such floor space with respect to which an impact tax
	adopted pursuant to Part 3 of this Title has been paid.
	(5) Person. An individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity.
	(6) Person responsible for the impact of land development. The owner of
	any dwelling unit or commercial building enclosed floor space on the
	date an occupancy permit is issued for such dwelling unit or
	commercial floor space or, if no such permit is issued, the date the
	dwelling unit or commercial floor space is occupied.
	PART 2. ORANGE COUNTY IMPACT TAX DISTRICT.
of Or	Sec. 2. An Orange County Impact Tax District is created which includes all
	range County outside the corporate limits (i) of the Town of Hillsborough, (ii) the
TOWI	n of Mebane, and (iii) the City of Durham.
	<ul><li>Sec. 3. The District is a body politic and corporate. The District may:</li><li>(1) Adopt an official seal and alter the seal at will.</li></ul>
	<ul><li>(1) Adopt an official scal and after the scal at with.</li><li>(2) Sue and be sued in its own name.</li></ul>
	<ul><li>(2) Such and be such in its own name.</li><li>(3) Contract and be contracted with.</li></ul>
	(4) Levy and collect a tax on the impact of land development within the
	District.
The I	District is required to keep its accounts on the basis of a fiscal year commencing on
	rst day of July and ending on the thirtieth day of June of the following year.
	Sec. 4. The Board of Commissioners of Orange County is the governing
body	of the District.
	ec. 5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the governing body of the
	ict may adopt an ordinance levying a tax on the impact of land development within
	District (hereinafter referred to as "impact tax" ). Orange County shall, on behalf of
	vistrict, provide for the administration, enforcement, and collection of the tax.
(b	
	ance, other than an ordinance relating only to water and sewer facilities, adopted
-	ant to Section 1 of Chapter 476 of the 1987 Session Laws (Carrboro), Section 1 of
-	ter 936 of the 1985 Session Laws (Chapel Hill), or Sections 17 through 18.1 of ter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws (Orange Country) is in offect
Cnap	ter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws (Orange County) is in effect.
nartie	Sec. 6. The purpose of the tax authorized by this Part is to generate funds to ally offset the cost of constructing new capital facilities or replacing, expanding, or
-	oving existing capital facilities necessitated in part by new growth within the
-	ict. Accordingly, the net proceeds generated by the tax authorized by this Part and
	buted pursuant to Section 8 to Orange County, Chapel Hill, and Carrboro,
	ctively, shall be deposited by each local government in its capital reserve
impro	Svements lund of lunds established under Part 2 of Article 5 of Chapter 159 of the
-	ovements fund or funds established under Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 159 of the ral Statutes and may be expended only as follows:
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1		libraries, stormwater drainage, open space, and recreation, and (ii) on
2		emergency and public safety facilities, including jails.
3	(2)	The Town of Chapel Hill and the Town of Carrboro may expend these
4		funds (i) on capital improvements related to roads and other
5		transportation systems, stormwater drainage, open space, and
6		recreation, and (ii) on police and fire stations. The funds may be spent
7		by each municipality only for improvements that are located within the
8		corporate limits of that municipality or within its extraterritorial
9		planning jurisdiction or transition area(s) as established under a joint
10		planning agreement with Orange County, except that Chapel Hill and
11		Carrboro may by agreement expend funds on joint projects that
12		transcend each other's jurisdictional boundaries, such as road or
13		drainage improvement projects.
14	Sec. 7	. An ordinance adopted under this Part shall provide that:
15	(1)	A person responsible for the impact of land development shall pay an
16		impact tax for each square foot of dwelling space and commercial
17		building enclosed floor space for which an occupancy permit is issued
18		or, if no such permit is issued, for each square foot of dwelling space
19		in an occupied dwelling and for each square foot of occupied enclosed
20		floor space in a commercial building.
21	(2)	The tax shall be due on or before the date an occupancy permit is
22		initially issued for the dwelling unit or commercial building enclosed
23		floor space in question or, if no such permit is issued, the date such
24		dwelling unit or commercial floor space is initially occupied.
25		However, no tax due shall be considered delinquent until 60 days after
26		the tax becomes due. There shall be added to delinquent taxes interest
27		at the legal rate.
28	(3)	Taxes authorized by this Part may be collected pursuant to G.S. 153A-
29	( )	147 or G.S. 160A-207. In addition, taxes authorized by this Part may
30		be recovered in a civil action in the nature of debt including an award
31		of reasonable attorneys' fees as part of costs.
32	Sec. 8	3. The governing body of the District, after consultation with Orange
33		n of Carrboro, and the Town of Chapel Hill, shall establish annually at
34		doption of the annual budget of Orange County the tax rate to be levied
35		of dwelling space and per square foot of commercial building enclosed
36		the ensuing fiscal year. Different tax rates may be established for
37	*	f commercial construction.
38		As soon as reasonably practicable after the close of each quarter of
39		he District shall distribute to Chapel Hill and Carrboro the net proceeds
40	•	red by the District based upon development that has taken place within
41		municipality's corporate limits, extraterritorial planning jurisdiction and
42	-	), as established in joint planning agreements. The remainder of the net

proceeds"means the gross proceeds of the tax less the cost to the county of collecting
 and administering the tax.

Sec. 10. The boundaries of the District may be expanded to include portions
of Orange County within the corporate limits of the Town of Hillsborough, the Town of
Mebane, or the City of Durham in accordance with the provisions of this section.

6 (a) Upon a favorable vote of the majority of the membership of the governing 7 body of any of the municipalities listed in this section, the entire area of that 8 municipality that is located within Orange County shall be annexed (the "annexed area" 9 ) to the District on the first day of the next quarterly period that follows the month in 10 which the vote took place.

11 (b) Consistent with Section 6 of this Part, if any of the municipalities listed in 12 this section vote to be in the District, the net proceeds generated by the tax authorized 13 by this Part and distributed to that municipality shall be deposited in a capital reserve 14 improvements fund and may be expended only for the purposes authorized in Section 6 15 of this Part.

16 (c) When the District is expanded to include an annexed area, the consultation 17 required under Section 8 of this Part shall include consultation with the governing body 18 of the municipality within whose corporate limits the annexed area lies.

(d) When the District is expanded to include an annexed area, the District shall distribute to the governing body of the municipality within whose corporate limits the annexed area lies the net proceeds of the tax received by the District due to development that has taken place within that municipality's corporate limits, extraterritorial planning jurisdiction, and transition area(s) as established in joint planning agreements.

(e) The governing body of a municipality covered under this section may not vote to become part of the District if an impact fee ordinance authorized under special legislation comparable to that listed in Section 5(b) of this Part is in effect within that municipality and may not adopt such an impact fee ordinance applicable to the area within the District while it remains within the District.

Sec. 11. The provisions in this Part apply only to the District created in thisPart.

# PART 3. THE ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPACT TAX.

Sec. 12. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), Orange County may adopt an ordinance levying a tax on the impact of land development within the County and provide for the administration, enforcement, and collection of the tax.

(b) Orange County may not adopt an ordinance pursuant to this Part if any
ordinance, other than an ordinance that pertains only to water and sewer facilities,
adopted pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 476 of the 1987 Session Laws (Carrboro),
Section 1 of Chapter 936 of the 1985 Session Laws (Chapel Hill), or Sections 17
through 18.1 of Chapter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws (Orange County) is in effect.

40 Sec. 13. The purpose of the tax authorized by this Part is to generate funds to 41 partially offset the cost of constructing new school capital facilities or replacing, 42 expanding, or improving existing school capital facilities necessitated in part by new 43 growth within Orange County. Accordingly, the net proceeds generated by the tax 44 authorized by this Part shall be deposited by Orange County in its capital reserve

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improvements fund or funds established under Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 159 of the 1 2 General Statutes and may be expended, to the extent otherwise authorized by law, only 3 for capital improvements projects related to schools. Sec. 14. A person responsible for the impact of land development shall pay 4 5 an impact tax for each square foot of dwelling space and commercial building enclosed 6 floor space for which an occupancy permit is issued or, if no such permit is issued, for 7 each square foot of dwelling space in an occupied dwelling and for each square foot of 8 occupied enclosed floor space in a commercial building. 9 The tax shall be due on or before the date an occupancy permit is initially 10 issued for the dwelling unit or commercial building enclosed floor space in question or, if no such permit is issued, the date the dwelling unit or commercial floor space is 11 12 initially occupied. However, no tax due shall be considered delinquent until 60 days 13 after the tax becomes due. There shall be added to delinquent taxes interest at the legal 14 rate. 15 Taxes authorized by this Part may be collected pursuant to G.S. 153A-147 or 16 G.S. 160A-207. In addition, taxes authorized by this Part may be recovered in a civil 17 action in the nature of debt including an award of reasonable attorneys' fees as part of 18 costs. 19 Sec. 15. Orange County shall establish annually at the time of the adoption of 20 its annual budget the tax rate to be levied per square foot of dwelling space and per 21 square foot of commercial building enclosed floor space for the ensuing fiscal year. 22 Different tax rates may be established for different types of commercial construction. Sec. 16. As used in this Part, the term "net proceeds" means the gross 23 24 proceeds of the tax less the cost to the County of collecting and administering the tax. 25 Sec. 17. This Part applies only to Orange County. 26

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#### PART 4. PROVISIONS FOR REPEAL OF OTHER LOCAL ACTS, DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

28 Sec. 18. Orange County may repeal all or part of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Sections 17 through 18.1 of Chapter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws. Except 29 30 as it may pertain to water and sewer facilities. Orange County may not adopt an 31 ordinance pursuant to Sections 17 through 18.1 of Chapter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws while an ordinance adopted pursuant to this Title is in effect. Chapel Hill may 32 repeal all or part of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 936 of the 33 1985 Session Laws. Except as it may pertain to water and sewer facilities, Chapel Hill 34 may not adopt an ordinance pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 936 of the 1985 Session 35 Laws while an ordinance adopted pursuant to this Title is in effect. Carrboro may 36 37 repeal all or part of an ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 476 of the 38 1987 Session Laws. Except as it may pertain to water and sewer facilities, Carrboro 39 may not adopt an ordinance pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 476 of the 1987 Session 40 Laws while an ordinance adopted pursuant to this Title is in effect.

41 Sec. 19. Whenever the sale of real property located in Orange County 42 involves new construction, the seller shall prepare and sign, and the buyer shall receive 43 and sign, a disclosure statement. The disclosure statement shall either be included in a 44 contract of sale or contained in a separate document executed prior to the execution of a 1991

sales contract. This disclosure statement shall fully and completely disclose that the 1 2 owner of the property at the time an occupancy permit is issued for the new construction 3 or, if no occupancy permit is issued, the date the new construction is occupied, may be subject to a tax levied by the County, the District, or both on the impact of land 4 5 development. If a seller fails to make such a disclosure and the buyer suffers injury as a 6 result of the seller's failure to disclose, the seller shall be liable to the buyer to the extent 7 of the buyer's injury. 8 TITLE II. IMPACT FEES. 9 Sec. 20. Section 17.1 of Chapter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws reads as 10 rewritten: 11 "Sec. 17.1. Section 17 of this act shall apply only to Orange County, and applies 12 only within the planning jurisdiction of Orange County. Provided, however, any 13 portion of an Orange County ordinance that contains a system of impact fees to provide 14 for capital improvements to public schools within Orange County, applies everywhere in Orange County, including within the corporate limits and the extraterritorial planning 15 jurisdiction of any city, town, or municipal corporation within Orange County." 16 17 Sec. 21. Section 18.1 of Chapter 460 of the 1987 Session Laws reads as 18 rewritten: 19 "Sec. 18.1. Section 18 of this act shall apply only to Orange County, and applies 20 only within the planning jurisdiction of Orange County. Provided, however, any 21 portion of an Orange County ordinance that contains a system of impact fees to provide for capital improvements to public schools within Orange County, applies everywhere 22 23 in Orange County, including within the corporate limits and the extraterritorial planning 24 jurisdiction of any municipal corporation within Orange County." Sec. 22. This Title applies only to Orange County. 25 Sec. 23. This act is effective upon ratification. 26