

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL DRS35011-LG-2

Short Title: Rename Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Johnson, Perry, and Britt (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NAMES OF THE OUTDOOR HERITAGE ADVISORY
3 COUNCIL AND THE NORTH CAROLINA OUTDOOR HERITAGE TRUST FUND AND
4 TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF GRANTS AND PROGRAMMING TO PROMOTE
5 YOUTH OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Part 36 of Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes reads as
8 rewritten:

9 "~~Part 36. Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council.~~ North Carolina Youth Outdoor Engagement
10 Commission.

11 "**§ 143B-344.60. ~~Outdoor heritage advisory council.~~ North Carolina Youth Outdoor**
12 **Engagement Commission.**

13 (a) ~~The Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council.~~ North Carolina Youth Outdoor Engagement
14 Commission (hereinafter "Commission") is established within the North Carolina Wildlife
15 Resources Commission for organizational and budgetary purposes only. The ~~Council~~
16 Commission shall exercise all of its statutory powers independent of control by the Executive
17 Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission. ~~The Council-Commission~~ shall (i) advise State
18 agencies and the General Assembly on the promotion of outdoor recreational activities,
19 including, but not limited to, hiking, horseback riding, boating, sport shooting and archery, bird
20 watching and wildlife watching, camping, swimming, hunting, trapping, and fishing in order to
21 preserve North Carolina's outdoor heritage for future ~~generations.~~ generations and (ii) use grants
22 and programming to promote the outdoor recreational activities described in this subsection.

23 (b) ~~The Council-Commission~~ shall consist of 13 members, appointed as follows:

- 24 (1) Four members appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation
25 of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- 26 (2) Four members appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation
27 of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 28 (3) Three members appointed by the Governor.
- 29 (4) One member appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- 30 (5) One member appointed by the chair of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

31 All members of the ~~Council-Commission~~ shall have knowledge and experience in outdoor
32 recreational activities and have a demonstrated interest in promoting outdoor heritage.

33 (c) The terms of the initial members of the ~~Council-Commission~~ shall commence October
34 1, 2015. Of the Governor's initial appointments, one member shall be designated to serve a term
35 of three years, one member shall be designated to serve a term of two years, and one member
36 shall be designated to serve a term of one year. Of the initial appointments by the President Pro



1 Tempore of the Senate, one member shall be designated to serve a term of three years, one
2 member shall be designated to serve a term of two years, and one member shall be designated to
3 serve a term of one year. Of the initial appointments by the Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives, one member shall be designated to serve a term of three years, one member shall
5 be designated to serve a term of two years, and one member shall be designated to serve a term
6 of one year. The members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and the chair of the
7 Wildlife Resources Commission shall each serve an initial term of four years. After the initial
8 appointees' terms have expired, all members shall be appointed for a term of four years.

9 Any appointment to fill a vacancy on the ~~Council-Commission~~ created by the resignation,
10 dismissal, death, or disability of a member shall be for the balance of the unexpired term.

11 (d) The initial chair of the ~~Council-Commission~~ shall be designated by the Governor from
12 the ~~Council-Commission~~ members. Subsequent chairs shall be elected by the ~~Council~~
13 ~~Commission~~ for terms of two years.

14 (e) The ~~Council-Commission~~ shall meet quarterly and at other times at the call of the
15 chair. A majority of members of the ~~Council-Commission~~ shall constitute a quorum.

16 (f) ~~Council-Commission~~ members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the
17 performance of their duties in accordance with G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6, as applicable. The
18 reimbursements authorized by this subsection may be provided from the North Carolina ~~Outdoor~~
19 ~~Heritage Trust Fund for Youth Outdoor Heritage Promotion~~. Youth Outdoor Engagement Fund.

20 (g) The Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission shall provide clerical
21 and other assistance as needed, including, but not limited to, office space, transportation support,
22 and support for equipment and information technology needs of the ~~Council-Commission~~.

23 (h) The ~~Council-Commission~~ shall be exempt from Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the
24 General Statutes but may use the services of the Department of Administration in procuring
25 goods and services for the ~~Council-Commission~~.

26 "**§ 143B-344.62. ~~Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council North Carolina Youth Outdoor~~**
27 **Engagement Commission – executive director; staff.**

28 The ~~Council-Commission~~ may, subject to appropriations or other funds that accrue to it,
29 employ an executive director to carry out the day-to-day responsibilities and business of the
30 ~~Council-Commission~~. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~Council-~~
31 ~~Commission~~. The executive director, also subject to appropriations or other funds that accrue to
32 the ~~Council-Commission~~, may hire additional staff and consultants to assist in the discharge of
33 the executive director's responsibilities, as determined by the ~~Council-Commission~~.

34 "**§ 143B-344.64. ~~Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council North Carolina Youth Outdoor~~**
35 **Engagement Commission – report.**

36 On or before December 1, 2019, and at least annually thereafter, the ~~Council-Commission~~
37 shall submit a report to the chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture
38 and Natural and Economic Resources and the Fiscal Research Division regarding its activities,
39 initiatives, partnerships, and use of donated and appropriated funds."

40 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 126-5(c1)(36) reads as rewritten:

41 "(36) Employees of the ~~Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council~~. North Carolina Youth
42 Outdoor Engagement Commission."

43 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.