

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1989**

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**HOUSE BILL 1381\***

Short Title: Avery County Growth Management.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Robinson, Flaherty, and Buchanan.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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April 24, 1989

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO DEVELOP A GROWTH MANAGEMENT  
PLAN FOR AVERY COUNTY THAT CAN BE USED AS A PLANNING  
MODEL FOR OTHER MOUNTAIN COUNTIES.**

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners of Avery County and the Town Councils of its eight municipalities recognize the value of cooperation on matters of mutual concern, especially in the area of growth management; and

Whereas, the Commissioners and Town Councils of all eight municipalities agree unanimously that such matters of mutual concern and interest can best be addressed through joint planning in order to accomplish together what no single unit could as effectively accomplish alone; and

Whereas, the realization of goals and projects which are vital to enhancing the quality of Avery County's economy, environment, and livability is contingent upon effectively managing growth in strategically identified areas of the county; and

Whereas, in Avery County, one of the State's fastest developing mountain counties, there will almost certainly continue to be accelerated growth in the villages and towns and those sections adjacent to town corporate limits; and

Whereas, it is recognized by the Board of County Commissioners and the Town Councils that such accelerated growth will negatively impact the county's physical environment and infrastructure unless it is strategically planned for; and

Whereas, the Avery County Board of Commissioners and the Town Councils of the Village of Sugar Mountain, Beech Mountain, Crossnore, Banner Elk, Grandfather Village, Newland, Seven Devils, and Elk Park have pledged their mutual cooperation in

1 planning for and implementing a growth management strategy for Avery County and its  
2 citizens through passage of A Resolution of Cooperation on February 13, 1989; and

3         Whereas, the actions of the Avery County Board of Commissioners and the  
4 Town Councils of its eight municipalities are consistent with the recommendations of  
5 the Legislative Research Commission's Growth Management Study Committee recently  
6 filed; and

7         Whereas, the results of such mutual cooperation in Avery County toward  
8 Growth Management Planning could be useful as a model for other mountain counties,  
9 or for regional planning; Now, therefore,

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11         Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
12 Natural Resources and Community Development, Division of Community Assistance,  
13 the sum of thirty-seven thousand two hundred sixty-nine dollars (\$37,269) for the 1989-  
14 90 fiscal year and the sum of thirty-seven thousand two hundred eighty-six dollars  
15 (\$37,286) for the 1990-91 fiscal year to be used for providing the full-time services and  
16 support of the senior planner in the division's Western Regional Office to Avery County  
17 to assist the county and its municipalities in developing a growth management strategy.

18         Sec. 2. The Avery County Board of Commissioners will provide local  
19 assistance to the project through its county Economic Development Commission, by  
20 maintaining the funding of its county Economic Development Commission and  
21 providing staff and/or consultation assistance at levels determined by it to be  
22 reasonable.

23         Sec. 3. A plan of work setting forth specific tasks to be achieved by project  
24 and time frames for completion of those tasks shall be developed, such tasks to include  
25 but not be limited to the following: establishment of local planning boards by the  
26 county and all municipalities, collection of data vital to the planning process, review  
27 and analysis of the physical environment (land use survey, natural features,  
28 identification of environmentally and culturally sensitive areas, evaluation of  
29 transportation and utility services), implementation of an identified strategic planning  
30 process, development of specific documentation and recommendations for growth plan,  
31 and development of specific implementation actions to include control mechanisms, as  
32 needed, concurrent with commitments from local government to support such  
33 mechanisms.

34         Sec. 4. The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and  
35 Community Development shall be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the project  
36 consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Department as established by  
37 the General Assembly and the Executive Branch and shall make periodic reports to the  
38 Joint Legislative Commission on Future Strategies of North Carolina if that  
39 Commission is created and to the legislative delegation representing Avery County in  
40 the General Assembly.

41         Sec. 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.