

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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HOUSE BILL 1143

Short Title: Study Assistance to Dairy Farmers. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hill; Coates, Mitchell, and Rapp.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 10, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION TO
2 STUDY METHODS OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO DAIRY FARMERS.
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4 Whereas, it is in the best interests of the citizens of North Carolina to have a
5 safe and dependable local supply of fresh and wholesome Grade A milk; and

6 Whereas, dairy farmers have faced severe economic hardship in recent years
7 due to factors beyond their control; and

8 Whereas, the number of dairy farms and the amount of milk production in
9 North Carolina have declined considerably in recent years; and

10 Whereas, the consumer demand for milk has outpaced the local supply; and

11 Whereas, the current federal dairy program does not provide sustainable
12 market prices for dairy farmers in the South; and

13 Whereas, the United States Congress has yet to ratify the Southern Dairy
14 Compact, Article 68 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes; Now, therefore,
15 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

16 **SECTION 1.** The Legislative Research Commission shall study methods of
17 providing assistance to North Carolina dairy farmers.

18 **SECTION 2.** The Legislative Research Commission shall report its findings
19 and recommendations to the 2004 Regular Session of the 2003 General Assembly.

20 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General
21 Assembly for the Legislative Research Commission the sum of twenty-five thousand
22 dollars (\$25,000) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year for the costs of conducting the study
23 authorized by this act.

24 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.