

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH10795-SB-30 (03/25)

Short Title: Promote Water Use Efficiency.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Gibson.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROMOTE VOLUNTARY, YEAR-ROUND WATER CONSERVATION AND
3 WATER USE EFFICIENCY MEASURES BY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL
4 WATER USERS.

5 Whereas, North Carolina recognizes that water is our most basic and precious
6 natural resource; and

7 Whereas, North Carolina has experienced extreme drought in the past several years
8 and expects to experience extreme drought in the future; and

9 Whereas, the efficient use of water is of utmost importance; and

10 Whereas, the best and least expensive source of "new" water is improved efficiency
11 in water use; and

12 Whereas, North Carolina should reward and promote best management practices
13 and leadership efforts in water efficiency; and

14 Whereas, there are voluntary efforts underway that encourage and promote water
15 use efficiency; and

16 Whereas, there are commercial and industrial water users that are currently utilizing
17 water conservation measures to the maximum extent possible; Now, therefore,
18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 143-355.2 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 "(h1) Users of water for commercial or industrial purposes may establish a voluntary
21 water conservation and water use efficiency certification program to encourage and promote
22 the use of year-round water conservation and water use efficiency measures. A water
23 conservation and water use efficiency certification may only be issued to a person that meets
24 the standards set forth under the program, including the implementation of measures that
25 reduce water consumption by twenty percent (20%) or more on an ongoing basis. In order to
26 receive certification from a certification program, a person must utilize the services of a
27 licensed plumbing contractor to measure water flow and inspect equipment for leaks to
28 determine if the applicant is in compliance with the standards of certification program. The
29 State and units of local government shall recognize a certification program organized pursuant
30 to this subsection. A person that receives certification under a certification program will be
31 deemed in compliance with any water conservation measures established pursuant to this
32 section, including the default water conservation measures referenced in subsection (f) of this
33 section, and shall not be required to implement additional water conservation measures during
34 periods of drought or water emergency."

35 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

