GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

SESSION LAW 2003-120
HOUSE BILL 153

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM TO GIVE ANNUAL NOTICE TO CHRONIC VIOLATORS OF THE CITY'S GARBAGE AND TRASH ORDINANCE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO TAKE REMEDIAL ACTION REGARDING THE GARBAGE AND TRASH ORDINANCE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE THAT CALENDAR YEAR, AND CLARIFYING THE LANGUAGE AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES A CHRONIC VIOLATOR UNDER THE CITY'S CURRENT ORDINANCE REGARDING OVERGROWN VEGETATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. A municipality may notify a chronic violator of the municipality's garbage and trash ordinance that, if the violator's property is found to be in violation of the ordinance, the municipality may, without further notice in the calendar year in which the notice is given, take action to remedy the violation, and the expense of the action shall become a lien upon the violator's property in accordance with G.S. 160A-193. The initial annual notice shall be served by registered or certified mail. Under this section, a chronic violator is a person who owns property whereupon, in the previous calendar year, the municipality gave a notice of violation at least three times under any provision of the garbage and trash ordinance.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of S.L. 1999-58 reads as rewritten:

"**Section 1.** A municipality may notify a chronic violator of the municipality's overgrown vegetation ordinance that, if the violator's property is found to be in violation of the ordinance, the municipality shall, without further notice in the calendar year in which notice is given, take action to remedy the violation and the expense of the action shall become a lien upon the property and shall be collected as unpaid taxes. The initial annual notice shall be served by registered or certified mail. A chronic violator is a person who owns property whereupon, in the previous calendar year, the municipality ~~took remedial action~~ gave a notice of violation at least three times under any provision of the overgrown vegetation ordinance."

SECTION 3. This act applies to the City of Winston-Salem only.

SECTION 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 2nd day of June, 2003.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue
President of the Senate

s/ Richard T. Morgan
Speaker of the House of Representatives