

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 794

Short Title: NCSU Forestry Geneticist Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives G. Wilson; Baker, Beall, J. Brown, Buchanan, Carpenter, Culp, Hiatt, Kiser, Nye, Ramsey, Sherrill, and Thompson.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 10, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A FORESTRY GENETICIST POSITION
AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF FOREST
RESOURCES.**

Whereas North Carolina has 2,400 Christmas tree growers with 30,000 acres currently in production, harvesting 5,500,000 trees annually, with a total value of \$165,000,000; and Whereas, the Christmas tree industry has created 2,300 full-time jobs and 16,100 seasonal jobs in rural areas where employment opportunities in other industries are limited; and

Whereas, in 1992, North Carolina Christmas tree sales represented approximately 14% of the national market, to grow to 25% if the production of high quality trees can be produced profitably; and

Whereas, the key to the production of high quality, high value Christmas trees is the use of the best genetic stock available; and

Whereas, the work to produce this stock requires the full-time, long-range work of a trained forestry geneticist; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of two hundred thousand dollars

1 (\$200,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year and the sum of two hundred thousand dollars
2 (\$200,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for the Cooperative Extension Service at North
3 Carolina State University to establish and maintain a forestry geneticist position,
4 technician, graduate student, and support dedicated to the development and use of the
5 best genetic stock from the North Carolina Christmas tree industry.

6 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.