

1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

LD4976482

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 510

Offered January 20, 1995

Requesting the Department of Environmental Quality and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to investigate environmental permits issued by North Carolina which may affect Virginia's water quality and quantity, or its fresh water and tidal fisheries.

Patrons—Wagner, Albo, Copeland, Croshaw, May, McClure, McDonnell, Purkey, Robinson and Tata;
Senators: Holland, C.A. and Stolle

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, protecting the quality and quantity of Virginia's waters is a primary responsibility of state government; and

WHEREAS, permitted action in North Carolina may affect a number of ecological systems within Virginia;

WHEREAS, certain coastal areas of Virginia, particularly Back Bay, the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, False Cape State Park and North Landing River are environmentally sensitive; and

WHEREAS, jetties to be located in Oregon Inlet represent a permanent impediment to the national sand migration pattern on the eastern seaboard; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Oregon Inlet jetties will permit expansion of the North Carolina fishing industry while resulting in a significant threat to Virginia's fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Mid-Sound Bridge, which will connect the Town of Duck, North Carolina, with the mainland of North Carolina, may harm Virginia's ecosystems, including the environmentally fragile Back Bay region; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is also promoting several projects along the Roanoke River Basin tributaries which flow into Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the New River is a vital recreational and scenic river whose waters originate in North Carolina; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) review and evaluate the impact of every permit application submitted to the North Carolina Division of Environmental Management or any other agency of North Carolina that may affect Virginia's water quantity, and fresh water and tidal fisheries; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That DEQ or VMRC, upon finding that such a permit will have significant impact on Virginia's environment, shall refer the results of their study to the Attorney General for appropriate legal action.

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