



# HOUSE BILL 1082: Wake/Chatham/Harnett Boundary Line.

2017-2018 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 19, 2018
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Lewis, Jackson, Dollar, Sauls	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Greg Roney Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 1082 would re-establish the tri-county corner between Chatham, Harnett, and Wake Counties, and correct a portion of the 1961 Chatham-Wake County boundary.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The North Carolina Geodetic Survey (NCGS) via its State and County Boundary Program was created to resurvey ambiguous sections of the State's borders and county boundaries in order to prevent boundary-related disputes between bordering entities and to facilitate real estate property assessments, E-911 services, building inspections, and school assignments.

In 1961, the Wake and Chatham County Board of Commissioners commissioned a surveyor to locate the historic boundary line between Wake and Chatham County. The resulting E.C. Smith survey was ratified by the Wake and Chatham County Board of Commissioners in 1961 and included a monumented corner placed at the easternmost point of the believed intersection of Wake, Chatham, and Harnett County, referred to as the 'tri-county corner'. The tri-county corner has been used as the endpoint and baseline for the demarcation of the southern boundary line between Wake and Chatham County since 1961.

Although Harnett County shares common boundaries and the tri-corner with Wake and Chatham County, Harnett County did not ratify the 1961 Wake/Chatham survey or the tri-county corner referenced in this section. Wake and Harnett County have used differing versions of their shared boundary line. In 2017, in trying to resolve the discrepancy, the counties requested assistance from the NCGS. During its research, NCGS discovered that the tri-county corner is approximately 500 feet southwest of the 1961 E.C. Smith survey location. These discoveries are referenced on a preliminary map dated September 27, 2017, prepared by NCGS and entitled "Resurvey of the Chatham, Harnett, Wake County Corner."

At this time, no person resides on the properties impacted by the 2017 Resurvey.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 1082 would set forth the necessary timelines for implementing the 2017 resurvey re-establishing the tri-county corner and Wake-Chatham County line, as follows:

- The tri-county corner is re-established, effective January 1, 2019, as that depicted in the 2017 NCGA Resurvey. The boards of county commissioners have adopted resolutions pursuant to G.S. 153A-18, establishing the boundary. **Sections 3 and 4(a).**
- Limitation on liability. **Section 8.**
- All public records related to residents and property located in areas affected by the 2017 survey that were filed or recorded prior to January 1, 2019, in the adjoining counties would remain in those respective adjoining counties where filed or recorded, and the records remain valid public records as to the property and persons involved. **Section 4(b).**

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



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- All real and personal property in areas affected by the 2017 resurvey that was subject to ad valorem taxation on January 1, 2019, would be subject to ad valorem taxes in the county to which the property is reassigned as a result of the 2017 resurvey for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, to the same extent as it would have been had it been correctly recognized by the tax departments of each county on January 1, 2019. **Section 4(c).**
- Even though there are no places of residence on the affected properties, any student of Chatham, Harnett, and Wake Counties enrolled in the Wake, Chatham, or Harnett County school system who are subsequently impacted by the 2017 Resurvey are to be provided a choice to remain in their current school system, tuition-free, until graduation from high school, so long as they resided in the place of residence during the 2017-2018 school year and continue to reside there. This applies to any siblings of those students. **Section 7.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2019

*Erika Churchill with the Legislative Analysis Division substantially contributed to this summary.*