

SENATE BILL 315: North Carolina Farm Act of 2019-20, Sec. 10: Soil and Water Conservation Confidentiality Change

Committee: Date: October 12, 2020 Introduced by: Prepared by: Chris Saunders Analysis of: Sec. 10 of S.L. 2020-18 Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 10 of S.L. 2020-18 provides that all information that is collected by soil and water conservation districts from farm owners, animal owners, agricultural producers or owners of agricultural land that is confidential under federal or State law must be held confidential by the soil and water conservation districts. This includes (i) information provided by an agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land concerning the agricultural operation, farming or conservation practices, or the land itself, in order to participate in soil and water conservation programs, and (ii) geospatial information otherwise maintained by the district about agricultural lands or operations for which certain information is provided. This does not include applications for cost share assistance and associated contract documents that require the approval of the soil and water conservation district or the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

This section became effective October 1, 2020.

