

SENATE BILL 681:

Agency Policy Directives/2019-2020, Sec. 7.3: Investment Flexibility and Retained Earnings for Environmental Funds

Committee: Date: October 29, 2020 Introduced by: Prepared by: Jeff Cherry Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Sec. 7.3 of S.L. 2020-78 amends a statute directing the State Treasurer to invest the cash of certain enumerated funds to include the Riparian Buffer Restoration Fund, adds that fund, as well as the Ecosystem Restoration Fund, to a list of certain funds that can be invested in a broader range of investments by the State Treasurer, and allows the funds to retain the interest or other investment income earned.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

CURRENT LAW: Under G.S. 147-69.2 it is the duty of the State Treasurer to invest the cash of various special purpose and agency funds enumerated in the statute in excess of the amount required to meet the current needs and demands on these funds. Under the statute, some of the enumerated funds can be invested in a broader range of investments by the State Treasurer than others.

BILL ANALYSIS: Sec. 7.3 of S.L. 2020-78: (i) adds the Riparian Buffer Restoration Fund to the enumerated list of funds for which the State Treasurer has a duty to invest funds; and (ii) adds the Ecosystem Restoration Fund and the Riparian Buffer Restoration Fund to a list of certain funds that can be invested in a broader range of investments by the State Treasurer and allows the interest or other investment income earned to be retained by the funds.

