



# SENATE BILL 95: Veterans Memorial Funds/Do Not Revert.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	June 24, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sen. Burgin	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Wendy Ray
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Sixth Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 95 would do the following:*

- *Provide that funds appropriated for the construction of public facilities at the North Carolina Veterans Memorial Pavilion not revert to the General Fund until June 30, 2020.*
- *Extend until June 30, 2021, the time in which funds allocated for water lines for Rockingham and Guilford counties, and certain municipalities within those counties, may be used before reverting to the General Fund, and would expand the use of those funds to include sewer and wastewater projects.*
- *Allocate funds that are currently directed to be used to provide a grant to the Resource Institute, Inc. for hurricane mitigation projects on Topsail Island directly to the Towns of North Topsail Beach, Surf City, and Topsail Beach for hurricane recovery projects.*
- *Provide that funds allocated for planning and permitting of a satellite aquarium area shall instead be used to address storm damage at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center and to add the home of civil rights leader Golden Frinks to the Historic Edenton State Historic Site.*
- *Clarify the purpose of water and wastewater infrastructure funding to the Town of Mount Airy.*

**CURRENT LAW:** S.L. 2017-57 ("Current Operations Appropriations Act of 2017") appropriated the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2017-2018 fiscal year to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for the construction of public facilities at the North Carolina Veterans Memorial Pavilion in Broadway, North Carolina. Section 6.13(c) of S.L. 2017-57, which applies to the aforementioned funds, requires the return of funds to the State that have not been expended, made subject to an encumbrance, or disbursed to a subgrantee, by June 30, 2019.

Section 14.20A of S.L. 2016-94 ("Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2016"), as amended by Section 1 of S.L. 2017-17 ("Clarify Regional Water and Sewer Funds"), appropriated \$14,548,981 in nonrecurring funds to DEQ to fund interconnection and extension of water lines of a Regional Water and Sewer Authority that included Rockingham and Guilford Counties and municipalities within those counties (or related regional interconnections with such municipalities if necessary to meet needs of the Authority). Funds allocated but not used by June 30, 2020, revert to the General Fund.

Section 13.9 of S.L. 2018-5 ("Current Operations Appropriations Act of 2018"), as amended by Section 2.9 of 2018-138 ("Hurricane Florence/Supplemental Act"), provided a grant-in-aid of \$5,000,000 to the Resource Institute, Inc., to work with local governments on Topsail Island and engineering firms to develop, plan, or implement projects intended to mitigate the impact of future hurricanes on Topsail Island.

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# Senate Bill 95

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**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 95 would do the following:

**Section 1** would extend until June 30, 2020, the deadline to use funds appropriated to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for the construction of public facilities at the North Carolina Veterans Memorial Pavilion in Broadway, North Carolina.

**Section 2** would extend until June 30, 2021, the time in which funds allocated for water and sewer projects for Rockingham and Guilford counties, and the municipalities of Oak Ridge, Stokesdale, Summerfield, Reidsville, Madison, and Mayodan, may be used before unspent or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

**Section 3** would reallocate \$5,000,000 in equal amounts directly to the Towns of North Topsail Beach, Surf City, and Topsail Beach, for hurricane recovery projects benefitting the Towns and their adjoining coastlines.

**Section 4** would reallocate funds appropriated to the Division of North Carolina Aquariums in the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for planning and permitting of a satellite aquarium area as follows:

- \$98,794 to address storm damage at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center.
- \$155,000 to add the home of civil rights leader Golden Frinks to the Historic Edenton State Historic Site.

**Section 4.1** would clarify that funding of \$1 million provided to the Town of Mount Airy for "a water and sewer line extension project" can instead be used for "water and sewer projects".

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective June 30, 2019.

*Staff attorney Dan Ettefagh of the Bill Drafting Division substantially contributed to this summary.*