



# SENATE BILL 296: Collaboratory/Fisheries Study.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	March 31, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Lee, Sanderson, Lazzara	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kyle Evans
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 296 would direct the North Carolina Policy Collaboratory to study the overall status of the coastal and marine fisheries, with specific focus on certain species within the State, and report its findings to the Environmental Review Commission.*

## **BILL ANALYSIS:**

Senate Bill 296 would direct the North Carolina Policy Collaboratory (Collaboratory) to conduct a study on the overall status of the coastal and marine fisheries regulated by the State. The Collaboratory would specifically look at certain regulated species, listed fully in Section 1 of the bill, and examine the health and extent of habitats required by those species.

The Collaboratory would be directed analyze historical trends to assess and develop policy recommendations to better manage the overall health and viability of the State's fisheries and fishery habitat. The Department of Environmental Quality, the Wildlife Resources Commission, other agencies of the State, and units of local government would be directed to provide any assistance needed by the Collaboratory to compile the required data.

The Collaboratory must provide the results of this study to the Environmental Review Commission no later than December 31, 2022.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would be effective when it becomes law.

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