



HOUSE BILL 814: Emergency Management Mods.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 27, 2023
Introduced by:	Rep. Pless	Prepared by:	Anna Parsons
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 814 would make various changes to the Emergency Management Act, the powers of the Division of Emergency Management (Division), and other provisions governing emergency management.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would amend the powers of the Division of Emergency Management as follows:

- Removing the authority to establish a voluntary model registry for identifying functionally and medically fragile persons in need of assistance during an emergency.
- Authorizing the Division to contract for services from vendors specializing in certain functions related to hazard mitigation.
- Requiring the Division to establish and maintain a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) to coordinate voice and data interoperability programs, processes, and initiatives.
- Requiring the Division to support local, regional, State, and federal disaster communications planning and response through integrated planning.

Section 2 would repeal G.S. 102-1.1, which provides the name and description in relation to the 1983 North American Datum, and would enact a new G.S. 102-1.2 providing the name and description in relation to the North American Terrestrial Reference Frame of 2022 (NATRF2022).

This section would also enact a new G.S. 102-1.3, which would grant the North Carolina Geodetic Survey the authority to adopt rules, regulations, and specifications for future horizontal or vertical reference frames based on the receipt of official notice from the National Geodetic Survey of a change or adjustment to NATRF2022.

Section 3 would make the North Carolina Geodetic Survey the authoritative source for North Carolina county and State boundary information and permit the use of light detection and ranging (a.k.a. Lidar) in determining county boundaries.

Section 4 would authorize the Division to make the list of individuals subscribing to the North Carolina Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network available for public inspection in either printed or electronic format, or both, in the discretion of the Division. This section would also specify the purposes for which the list may be used by the Division.

Section 5 would provide that the funds appropriated in 2018 for the GuardianAngel Emergency Management Personnel/Equipment Tracking Tool and the additional funds appropriated in 2021 for Asset Tracking and Management – UNC be instead used by the Division, the North Carolina National Guard,

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and other agencies for funding for licenses and payment of vendor fees for personnel and equipment tracking and management capabilities.

Section 6 would amend the membership of the North Carolina Search and Rescue Team Advisory Committee to add representatives from specified specialty rescue programs. This section would also clarify that the chair of the committee is either the Director of the Division or the Director's designee.

Section 7 would authorize the Division to use up to \$200,000 of recurring funds appropriated for the State Search and Rescue Program to support the transfer of two existing full-time equivalent positions from federal grant funding support to State funds.

Section 8 would create the Hazardous Material Facility Account as a special, nonreverting account within the Department of Public Safety, where all funds collected from the hazardous materials facility fee will be credited.

Section 9 would remove the specific standards and guidelines for administration of the Emergency Management Certification Program.

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

**Susan Sitze, Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*