



2023-2024 General Assembly

# SENATE BILL 355: North Carolina Farm Act of 2024, Sec. 17: Amend Composition of the North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Committee

**Committee:**  
**Introduced by:**  
**Analysis of:** Sec. 17 of S.L. 2024-32

**Date:** August 20, 2024  
**Prepared by:** Aaron McGlothlin  
Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** *Section 17 of S.L. 2024-32 makes the following changes to the North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Committee:*

- *Adds two voting members: the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's designee, and a representative of the North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership.*
- *Adds two nonvoting ex officio members: the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Coordinator and a representative from the United States Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program.*
- *Makes the Commissioner of Agriculture or the Commissioner's designee the permanent chair of the Sentinel Landscapes Committee.*

*This section became effective July 3, 2024.*

## EXISTING LAW / BILL ANALYSIS:

The North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Committee was established in 2017 to coordinate the overlapping priority areas in the vicinity of and where testing and training occur near or adjacent to major military installations and to assist landowners in improving their land to benefit their operations and enhance wildlife habitats while furthering the State's economic interest in preserving, maintaining, and sustaining land uses that are compatible with military activities at major military installations and National Guard facilities.

Under prior law, the Sentinel Landscapes Committee was made up of five members:

- The Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Commissioner's designee.
- The Secretary of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary's designee.
- The Secretary of Natural and Cultural Resources, or the Secretary's designee.
- The Executive Director of the Wildlife Resources Commission, or the Executive Director's designee.
- The Dean of the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University, or the Dean's designee.

**Section 17** adds two voting members to the Sentinel Landscapes Committee, namely the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's designee and a representative of the North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership. The North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is administered by North Carolina State

Kara McCraw  
Director



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Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

# Senate Bill 355

*Page 2*

University and is a collaborative effort between private landowners, academia, agricultural organizations, conservation districts, nonprofit organizations, and military leaders.

This section also adds two nonvoting ex officio members, namely the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Coordinator and a representative from the United States Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program.

This section also makes the Commissioner of Agriculture or the Commissioner's designee the permanent chair of the Sentinel Landscapes Committee.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section became effective July 3, 2024.