



HOUSE BILL 694: Study Water/Wastewater Regionalization.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Agriculture and Environment. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 16, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Warren, Ross	Prepared by:	Aaron McGlothlin
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 694 would direct the Environmental Finance Center at the UNC School of Government to study water and wastewater regionalization, and to report its findings and recommendations to the House Oversight Committee, the Senate Committee on Regulatory Reform, and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by April 1, 2026.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 694 would direct the Environmental Finance Center at the UNC School of Government to study and report on the benefits, costs, and obstacles to regionalization of water and wastewater infrastructure across the State. The report must include legislative recommendations about: (i) regulatory changes that would lead public water and wastewater systems to lead to more informed decision making on financial stability; (ii) the potential of various regionalization measures to address financial instability; and (iii) whether there are any particular public water or wastewater systems in the State that would benefit significantly from regionalization measures.

The Environmental Finance Center would be required to consult with the following stakeholders when compiling its report and recommendations: the State Water Infrastructure Authority, the Local Government Commission, the North Carolina League of Municipalities, and the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

The Environmental Finance Center would be required to submit its findings and recommendations to the House Oversight Committee, the Senate Committee on Regulatory Reform, and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by April 1, 2026.

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

Kara McCraw
Director



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Legislative Analysis
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