



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 12.5: Extension of Interbasin Transfer Study and Moratorium

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 12.5

Date: August 20, 2026

Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
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Section 12.5 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) extends an existing moratorium on granting new interbasin transfer certificates for significant surface water transfers (in excess of 15,000,000 gallons per day) from March 1, 2027, to August 1, 2028. This section also extends the reporting deadline for the North Carolina Collaboratory, tasked with studying the current statutory process for approval of surface water transfers, from January 1, 2027, to January 15, 2028, and clarifies that the report must be delivered to the chairs of the House Agriculture and Environment Committee; the chairs of the Senate Agriculture, Energy, and Environment Committee; the chairs of the House and Senate Regulatory Reform Committees; and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



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