



SENATE BILL 554: Farmers Protection Act.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	May 6, 2025
Introduced by:	Sens. B. Newton, Barnes	Prepared by:	Robert Ryan
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 544 would prohibit a State chartered bank, credit union, savings and loan association, or savings bank from denying or canceling its service to an agriculture producer based, in whole or in part, upon the agriculture producer's greenhouse gas emissions, use of fossil fuel derived fertilizer, or use of fossil fuel powered machinery.*

CURRENT LAW:

There are currently no North Carolina statutes that prohibit a financial institution's denial or cancellation of services to an agriculture producer based upon the agriculture producer's greenhouse gas emissions, use of fossil fuel derived fertilizer, or use of fossil fuel powered machinery.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would make it unlawful for a bank to deny or cancel its service to an agriculture producer based, in whole or in part, upon the agriculture producer's greenhouse gas emissions, use of fossil fuel derived fertilizer, or use of fossil fuel powered machinery. The Commissioner of Banks would be required to monitor for compliance with this section as part of its recurring examinations of banks and could take enforcement actions against any banks that violate this section.

Section 2 would make the act applicable to a State savings and loan association.

Section 3 would make the act applicable to a State savings bank.

Section 4 would make the act applicable to a credit union and would grant the Administrator the enforcement authority provided to the Commissioner of Banks in section 1.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective when it becomes law and apply to acts committed on or after that date.

**Chris Saunders, Staff Attorney with LAD, substantially contributed to this summary.*

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578