

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE BILL 617

Short Title: Freeze Loop \$-Redirect to Maint./Pub. Trans. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Luebke.

Referred to: Transportation.

March 14, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO FREEZE THE PORTION OF THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND
3 APPROPRIATED FOR OUTER LOOPS AND TO REDIRECT THOSE FUNDS
4 TO HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

5 Whereas, the General Assembly created the Commission to Address Smart
6 Growth, Growth Management, and Development Issues; and

7 Whereas, the General Assembly also created the Transportation Finance
8 Study Committee; and

9 Whereas, the work of both groups affects the nature and quality of future
10 development in North Carolina; and

11 Whereas, there have been insufficient communication and coordination
12 between these two study groups; and

13 Whereas, this lack of coordination is leading to contradictory policy goals and
14 direction for the State; and

15 Whereas, according to the Brookings Institution report commissioned by the
16 Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation for the Smart Growth Commission, further construction
17 of outer loops is likely to worsen the already significant suburban sprawl of the State;
18 and

19 Whereas, increased funding for metropolitan transit needs, statewide road and
20 bridge maintenance and safety, and other improvements of existing roads would be
21 more consistent with the findings of the Brookings Institution report than continued
22 funding of sprawl-producing outer loops; and

23 Whereas, the Raleigh, Charlotte, and Greensboro outer loop projects should,
24 as a result, be phased out immediately, and the funds for those projects redirected to
25 transit, highway maintenance, and safety improvements on existing roads; Now,
26 therefore,

27 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

1 **SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all unspent and
2 unencumbered funds appropriated pursuant to G.S. 136-176(b)(2) are reappropriated.
3 One-half of the reappropriated funds shall be for highway maintenance and one-half
4 used to fund public transportation projects.

5 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.