## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2001

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## SENATE BILL 1329 Transportation Committee Substitute Adopted 7/16/02

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Short Title: DOT Pays County Gas Line Relocation Cost. (Public) Sponsors: Referred to: June 12, 2002 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PAY THE NONBETTERMENT RELOCATION COST FOR MOVING COUNTY-OWNED GAS LINE LOCATED ON A DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT-OF-WAY IF THE GAS LINE MUST BE MOVED DUE TO A DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT. Whereas, Bladen County is an economically distressed rural county; and Whereas, Bladen County has a per capita income of \$14,735; and Whereas, Bladen County has worked diligently to attract industry to insure employment and opportunity for all of its citizens; and Whereas, in furtherance of this goal, Bladen County purchased a natural gas pipeline to encourage economic development in the County; and Whereas, the Department of Transportation must now move the County-owned natural gas pipeline to complete a highway project; and Whereas, the relocation of the natural gas pipeline will detrimentally impact Bladen County's limited financial resources; and Whereas, the Department of Transportation is currently required to pay the relocation cost for utilities of similarly situated small municipalities with limited resources; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: **SECTION 1.** Chapter 136 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read: "§ 136-27.2. Relocation of county-owned natural gas lines located on Department of Transportation right-of-way.

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The Department of Transportation shall pay the nonbetterment cost for the relocation of county-owned natural gas lines, located within the existing State highway right-of-way, that the Department needs to relocate due to a State highway improvement project."

- SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to use monies appropriated to the Department to relocate county-owned natural gas lines located on Department of Transportation right-of-way.
- 4 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.