

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**SENATE BILL 1374**

Short Title: ERC Air Quality/Transportation Studies.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Clodfelter; and Kinnaird.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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May 27, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMISSION TO  
2 STUDY WHETHER THE HIGHWAY USE TAX SHOULD BE BASED ON FUEL  
3 EFFICIENCY, WHETHER THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWAL FEE  
4 SHOULD BE BASED ON VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED, AND WHETHER  
5 FUNDS GENERATED FROM THESE SOURCES OF REVENUE SHOULD BE  
6 USED TO SUPPORT AIR QUALITY AND TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY  
7 INITIATIVES.  
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9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Environmental Review Commission shall study both of  
11 the following:

12 (1) Whether the State should modify the current highway use tax so that  
13 all or a portion of the highway use tax paid on a private passenger  
14 vehicle is based on the fuel efficiency rating of the vehicle.

15 (2) Whether the State should modify the current vehicle registration fee so  
16 that all or a portion of the annual vehicle registration renewal fee for a  
17 passenger vehicle is based on the vehicle miles traveled by the vehicle.

18 **SECTION 1.(b)** In its conduct of these studies, the Environmental Review  
19 Commission shall consider whether the modifications studied under subsection (a) of  
20 this section should be made on a revenue-neutral basis or should be made so as to  
21 generate additional revenue to be used to fund initiatives designed to improve air quality  
22 and the efficiency of the transportation system in the State.

23 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Commission shall report its findings and  
24 recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the 2005 General Assembly.

25 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.