

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025**

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**SENATE BILL 713**

Short Title:   Limit Local Gov't Environmental Rqmt's. (Public)

Sponsors:     Senators Jarvis, Moffitt, and McInnis (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:   Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 26, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO LIMIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO REGULATE  
ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Part 1 of Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended  
by adding a new section to read:

**"§ 143B-279.30. Limitation on regulation of environmental matters by units of local  
government.**

(a) No unit of local government, as that term is defined by G.S. 159-44, may enact, adopt,  
implement, or enforce any ordinance, rule, regulation, or policy for the protection of the  
environment or natural resources that imposes a more restrictive standard or limitation than those  
imposed by State or federal law, unless otherwise specifically directed by the General Assembly.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a unit of local government from  
adopting, implementing, and enforcing requirements necessary to comply with federal or State  
law or a condition of a permit, certificate, or other approval issued by a federal or State agency,  
provided such requirement does not exceed the scope of the authority expressly granted.

(c) The limitation established by this section shall not be construed to apply to any  
ordinance, rule, regulation, or policy adopted by a unit of local where the regulations are adopted  
as a condition of participation in the National Flood Insurance Program."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law. Each unit of local  
government shall review and amend its ordinances, rules, regulations, and policies to ensure  
compliance with G.S. 143B-279.30, as enacted by Section 1 of this act, by December 1, 2025,  
after which date any non-compliant provisions remaining shall be null and void.

