**South Carolina General Assembly**

123rd Session, 2019-2020

**A73, R93, H4011**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Hixon, Tallon, Johnson and R. Williams

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Introduced in the House on February 19, 2019

Introduced in the Senate on April 9, 2019

Last Amended on May 9, 2019

Passed by the General Assembly on May 9, 2019

Governor's Action: May 16, 2019, Signed

Summary: Water resource planning and coordination

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/19/2019 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h:\hj\20190219.docx))

2/19/2019 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h:\hj\20190219.docx))

3/27/2019 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 31](file:///h:\hj\20190327.docx))

4/2/2019 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: R.Williams

4/2/2019 House Debate adjourned until Wed., 4‑3‑19 ([House Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\hj\20190402.docx))

4/4/2019 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 36](file:///h:\hj\20190404.docx))

4/4/2019 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 36](file:///h:\hj\20190404.docx))

4/4/2019 House Roll call Yeas‑99 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 37](file:///h:\hj\20190404.docx))

4/4/2019 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 39](file:///h:\hj\20190404.docx))

4/5/2019 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 6](file:///h:\hj\20190405.docx))

4/5/2019 Scrivener's error corrected

4/9/2019 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 13](file:///h:\sj\20190409.docx))

4/9/2019 Senate Referred to Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources** ([Senate Journal‑page 13](file:///h:\sj\20190409.docx))

4/25/2019 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture and Natural Resources** ([Senate Journal‑page 8](file:///h:\sj\20190425.docx))

4/26/2019 Scrivener's error corrected

5/7/2019 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 91](file:///h:\sj\20190507.docx))

5/7/2019 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 91](file:///h:\sj\20190507.docx))

5/7/2019 Senate Roll call Ayes‑43 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 91](file:///h:\sj\20190507.docx))

5/8/2019 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 70](file:///h:\sj\20190508.docx))

5/9/2019 House Senate amendment amended ([House Journal‑page 44](file:///h:\hj\20190509.docx))

5/9/2019 House Returned to Senate with amendments ([House Journal‑page 44](file:///h:\hj\20190509.docx))

5/9/2019 Senate Concurred in House amendment and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 64](file:///h:\sj\20190509.docx))

5/13/2019 Ratified R 93

5/16/2019 Signed By Governor

5/31/2019 Effective date 05/16/19

6/5/2019 Act No.  73

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

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[5/9/2019](file:///p:\pprever\2019-20\4011_20190509.docx)

(A73, R93, H4011)

**AN ACT** **TO AMEND SECTION 49‑3‑40, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES’ DUTIES IN REGARDS TO WATER RESOURCE PLANNING AND COORDINATION, SO AS TO MAKE STATUTORY CHANGES TO REFLECT THE DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT; AND TO AMEND SECTION 49‑3‑50, RELATING TO MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN EXERCISING ITS AUTHORITY UNDER THE WATER RESOURCES PLANNING AND COORDINATION ACT, SO AS TO REVISE THESE MATTERS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Department of Natural Resources duties**

SECTION 1. Section 49‑3‑40(a), (d) and (f) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(a) The department shall advise and assist the Governor and the General Assembly in:

(1) formulating and establishing a comprehensive water resources policy for the State, such as a State Water Plan, including coordination of policies and activities among the state departments and agencies;

(2) developing and establishing policies and proposals designed to meet and resolve special problems of water resource use and control within or affecting the State, including consideration of the requirements and problems of urban and rural areas;

(3) reviewing the actions and policies of state agencies with water resource responsibilities to determine the consistency of such actions and policies with the comprehensive water policy of the State and to recommend appropriate action where deemed necessary;

(4) reviewing any project, plan or program of federal aid affecting the use or control of any waters within the State and to recommend appropriate action where deemed necessary;

(5) developing policies and recommendations to assure that the long range interests of all groups, urban, suburban, and rural, are provided for in the state’s representation on interstate water issues;

(6) recommending to the General Assembly any changes of law or regulation required to implement the policy declared in this chapter; and

(7) such other water resources planning, policy formulation and coordinating functions as the Governor and the General Assembly may designate.

(d) The department shall encourage, assist and advise regional, metropolitan, and local governmental agencies, officials or bodies responsible for planning in relation to water aspects of their programs, and shall assist in coordinating local and regional water resources activities, programs, and plans.

(f) The department may receive and expend grants, gifts, and monies donated or given by any state, federal, or private agency, person, corporation, water or sewer authority, or political subdivision in connection with water resource investigations in which the results of such investigations will be made publicly available.”

**Department of Natural Resources considerations**

SECTION 2. Section 49‑3‑50 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 49‑3‑50. In exercising its responsibilities under this chapter, the department shall take into consideration the need for:

(a) Adequate supplies of surface and groundwaters of suitable quality for all uses, including domestic, municipal, agricultural, and industrial.

(b) Water of suitable quality for all purposes.

(c) Water availability for recreational and commercial needs.

(d) Hydroelectric power.

(e) Flood damage control or prevention measures including zoning to protect people, property, and productive lands from flood losses.

(f) Land stabilization measures.

(g) Drainage measures, including salinity control.

(h) Watershed protection and management measures.

(i) Outdoor recreational and fish and wildlife opportunities.

(j) Studies on saltwater intrusion into groundwater and surface water.

(k) Measures to protect the state’s fisheries and other aquatic resources.

(l) Any other means by which development of water and related land resources can contribute to economic growth and development, the long‑term preservation of water resources, and the general well‑being of all the people of the State.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 13th day of May, 2019.

Approved the 16th day of May, 2019.

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