



CHAPTER 146
ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

N.C.G.S. § 146-1.

Intent of Subchapter.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT c. 529, s. 1 — second act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:05 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 8e515c64c639a8b100d48215 - 9601c4454cd1624a6ec36144 - 47f6b11e74f5c19b
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§ 146-1(a) It is the purpose and intent of this Subchapter to vest in the Department of Administration, subject to rules and regulations adopted by the Governor and approved by the Council of State as hereinafter provided, responsibility for the management, control and disposition of all vacant and unappropriated lands, swamplands, lands acquired by the State by virtue of being sold for taxes, and submerged lands, title to which is vested in the State or in any State agency, to be exercised subject to the provisions of this Subchapter.

§ 146-1(b) Further, it is the intent of this Subchapter to establish within the Department, a method for obtaining easements for State-owned lands covered by navigable waters that includes compensation, recognizes the common law rights of riparian or littoral property owners, and balances those rights with the State's obligation to protect public trust rights for all of its citizens. The North Carolina General Assembly finds that the State is unable to provide the necessary access for its citizens to exercise public trust rights and, therefore, recognizes the role that publicly and privately owned piers, docks, wharves, marinas, and other structures located in or over State-owned lands covered by navigable waters generally serve in furthering public trust purposes including:

- (1) Providing citizens with access and ability to exercise public trust boating, fishing, and swimming activities;
- (2) Enhancing the value of appurtenant upland property values with the resulting increased collection of ad valorem taxes;

- (3) Enhancing tourism which is essential to the economy of the State and, in particular, to the coastal counties; and
- (4) Increasing local participation in boating and fishing activities with the resulting increase in taxes paid for fuel, fishing tackle, boat equipment, and imported boats and motors which taxes contribute to the sound economy of the State, and some of which are paid into the federal Wallop-Breaux Fund for redistribution to the State for water resource enhancements and water access improvements.

§ 146-1(c)

Nothing in this Subchapter shall apply to a privately owned lake or any hydroelectric reservoir licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

§ 146-1(d)

Nothing in this Subchapter shall be construed to limit or expand the full exercise of common law riparian or littoral rights.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
2 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1959		1977		1995
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR		DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT		
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER	
01	1959	c. 683, s. 1	ENACTED	
02	1995	c. 529, s. 1	AMENDED	

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 146-1 (1995).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 146-1(a) (1995).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1959, c. 683, s. 1; 1995, c. 529, s. 1.)

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NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

