



2023-2024 General Assembly

# SENATE BILL 582: North Carolina Farm Act of 2023, Sec. 13.1: Align Animal Waste Management System Operator Fees with Water Pollution Control System Operator Fees

**Committee:**  
**Introduced by:**  
**Analysis of:** Sec. 13.1 of S.L. 2023-63

**Date:** November 30, 2023  
**Prepared by:** Chris Saunders  
Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** Section 13.1 of S.L. 2023-63 increases the examination including certificate fee for Animal Waste Management System Operators from \$25.00 to \$85.00 and raises the renewal fee from \$10.00 to \$25.00.

*Additionally, this section provides that a certificate that is not renewed when due is invalid. If the certificate has been invalid for less than 12 months, it can be renewed by paying the renewal fee plus a late application fee of twice the annual renewal fee. The certificate holder must pay all penalties that have been assessed since the certificate was last renewed and meet all accrued continuing education requirements. If the certificate has been invalid for more than 12 months, the operator must pass the certification examination to renew the certificate.*

*This bill was vetoed by the Governor on June 23, 2023, and that veto was overridden by the General Assembly on June 27, 2023.*

*This section became effective June 27, 2023.*

**CURRENT LAW AND BACKGROUND:** Under current law, the fee for examination including certificate for Water Pollution Control System Operators is \$85.00. The renewal fee for a certificate is \$50.00. Late payment of the annual renewal has a \$50.00 penalty plus a \$100.00 penalty per year for each year for which annual renewal fees were not paid prior to the current year. Re-examination is not required if the annual renewal fees are not submitted on time.

Prior to enactment of this section, the corresponding fees for Animal Waste Management System Operators were \$25.00 and \$10.00, respectively. A certificate holder who failed to renew the certificate and pay the renewal fee within 30 days of its expiration was required to take and pass the examination for certification in order to renew the certificate.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578