



# The Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

*Serving Currituck and Dare Counties, Ocracoke Island*

P.O. Box 1757 • 101 Town Hall Drive • Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

252.441.8144 *Voice* • 252.441.0338 *Fax*

info@outerbankschamber.com

May 22, 2017

Senator Bill Cook  
N.C. Senate  
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 525  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Senator Cook,

On behalf of the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce and its membership, board of directors and volunteers I am writing to urge you to reconsider and oppose the elimination of the pier manager position at Jennette's Pier in Nags Head, NC.

Jennette's Pier is a public, educational and research fishing pier located at Whalebone Junction in Nags Head, North Carolina. The pier attracts visitors year-round; in 2016 over 185,743 people visited the pier and over 750,000 visitors also depend on the pier for access to the beach.

Jennette's Pier is a unique and wonderful combination of public access, and educational and research opportunities. The pier hosts North Carolina school groups who seek to learn more about North Carolina's delicate environmental infrastructure and how to best utilize the resources we have available. In 2016 the pier hosted over 7,616 students who experienced the programs and camps offered at the facility.

Jennette's Pier plays an important role in the local economy attracting people to the area, to the pier and to businesses surrounding its location. Jennette's Pier receives no State appropriations for its operations; it operates solely off the revenue it generates. This past success is attributable to the presence and work of the on-site manager for the pier. The manager of Jennette's Pier oversees not only the daily operations of the pier but is responsible for guiding and facilitating the many successful programs, research and events held there.

*Your key to information and services on North Carolina's Outer Banks!*

[www.outerbankschamber.com](http://www.outerbankschamber.com)





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For these reasons the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce, representing over 1,050 local business and their employees, strongly opposes the provision in Budget Bill S257v.4 eliminating the position of manager at Jennette's Pier.

Respectfully,

Brent Tomlinson

Chairman of the Board

Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

Karen S. Brown

President & CEO

Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

CC: Representative Beverly Boswell  
Representative Nelson Dollar  
Representative Pat McElraft  
Representative Bob Steinberg  
Senator Harry Brown  
Senator Kathy Harrington  
Senator Brent Jackson

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