

- (2) One million one hundred sixty-three thousand twenty-nine dollars (\$1,163,029) in unexpended funds shall instead be used for funding for students to pay for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student's ability to remain enrolled.

**SECTION 2A.3.(a)** Appropriation. – There is appropriated from the Helene Fund the sum of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year as follows:

- (1) Sixty-three million dollars (\$63,000,000) to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as follows:
  - a. Twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for the Agricultural Disaster Crop Loss Program (Program) established in Section 2D.1 of S.L. 2025-2. These funds shall only be used for verifiable losses of farm infrastructure, as that term is defined in Section 2D.1(g) of S.L. 2025-2, in the affected area. These funds are not subject to the Commissioner of Agriculture's discretion under Section 2D.1(h) of S.L. 2025-2. The reporting requirements of the Program apply to these funds. The Department of Agriculture may apply these funds to existing applicants who have applied for farm infrastructure losses in the affected area prior to the date this act becomes law and shall open a new application period for these funds.
  - b. Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for the Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program to be used in accordance with Article 6 of Chapter 139 of the General Statutes in the affected area.
  - c. Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for the North Carolina Forest Service for wildfire assets and preparedness, including contract services and equipment to respond and fight wildfires in the affected area.
  - d. Eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) for the North Carolina Agricultural Manufacturing and Processing Initiative for grants to eligible recipients under Section 10.2(b)(3) of S.L. 2023-134, as amended by Section 4.10 of S.L. 2024-1, for atmosphere-controlled projects in the affected area.
- (2) Ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to the Department of Commerce as follows:
  - a. Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the nonprofit corporation with which the Department contracts pursuant to G.S. 143B-431.01(b) for Visit NC to promote Western North Carolina tourism.
  - b. Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the Division of Community Revitalization for operational expenses and staffing.
- (3) Thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000) to the Department of Environmental Quality as follows:
  - a. Ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) for the Dam Safety Grant Fund to repair, modify, or remove dams damaged by Hurricane Helene in the affected area, consistent with G.S. 143-215.32B, as enacted by Subpart II-E of this act.
  - b. Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for landslide hazard mapping in the affected area.
- (4) Three million dollars (\$3,000,000) to the Department of Information Technology to develop the disaster recovery constituent portal in accordance with Subpart II-F of this act.
- (5) Twelve million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$12,250,000) to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for the Parks and Recreation