

Land prices going up- conservationists urge action

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Conservation groups urged lawmakers yesterday to protect undeveloped areas.

With property values rising, conservationists fear action is needed now, before it is too late. Land for Tomorrow stands behind a bill that would let voters decide whether or not to issue \$1 billion in bonds to fund the purchase and protection of farmland, forests and waterways. A report was presented that suggests the value of land in North Carolina jumped 285 percent over the past decade. The highest interest rate on bonds, according to the report, would only amount to about a third of the increase in land prices during the period.