

N.C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Research  
733-4910

Prepared By: Manny Marbet	Date Prepared: June 13, 1989	Bill No. S 960	Edition: 1
Approved By: Tom L. Covington			Sen. George Daniel
Short Title: Continuing Education for Local Environmental Health Staff			Sponsor:

TYPE OF FISCAL IMPACT	COUNTY/		FUNDS AFFECTED:			
	State Gov't	Local Gov't	( ) General	( ) Highway	( ) Other: Local	
			State Fiscal Impact	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY
No Fiscal Impact	(x)	( )	State Total Req'ments	-0-	-0-	
			Receipts/Revenues	-0-	-0-	
Increase Expenditure	( )	( )	Net State Expend./Rev.			
Decrease Expenditure	( )	( )	No. of Positions			
			Local Fiscal Impact	FY	FY	FY
Increase Revenue	( )	( )	Local Total Req'ments			
Decrease Revenue	( )	( )	Receipts/Revenues			
No Estimate Avail.	( )	( )	Net Local Expend./Rev.			
			No. of Positions			

Description of Legislation

1. Summary of Legislation

SB 960 would make it mandatory that the Health Services Commission establish continuing education requirements for local sanitarians. The continuing education requirements are to include training in conventional and nonconventional sanitary sewage systems, and any other instruction deemed necessary by the Health Services Commission. The proposed legislation would also require the Department of Human Resources to charge septic tank manufacturers and manufacturers of sewage pretreatment units a fee of \$25.00 for each manufactured septic tank sold by the manufacturer for use in North Carolina.

2. Effective Date

January 1, 1990

3. Fund or Tax Affected

N/A

4. Principal Department/Program Affected

Department of Human Resources/Division of Health Services

Cost or Revenue Impact on State

	FY	FY	FY
	89-90	90-91	
1. Non-Recurring Costs/Revenues	-0-	-0-	
2. Recurring Costs/Revenues	-0-	-0-	
3. Fiscal/Revenue Assumptions	-0-	-0-	

Cost/Revenue Impact on County or Local Government

	FY	FY	FY
	88-89	89-90	
1. Non-Recurring Costs/Revenues			
2. Recurring Costs/Revenues			
3. Fiscal/Revenue Assumptions			

Sources of Data for Fiscal Note

Department of Human Resources/Sanitation Branch

Technical Considerations/Comments

The Department of Human Resources currently does not have the staff to implement SB 960. SB 960 establishes a fee schedule of \$25.00 for each manufactured septic tank sold by the manufacturers for use in North Carolina. The funds generated from these fees will be used to administer and operate the program. There is currently no anticipation of any General Fund dollars needed to implement the program. The fees that are generated are to be used, as follows:

- o retain sufficient staff to respond promptly to requirements in the on-site sewage disposal program for supervision, technical assistance, training and continuing education for local environmental, health personnel;
- o to support research in alternative methods of on-site sewage disposal;

- o to implement an automated information system to support these and related environmental health activities.

The Department has indicated that in order to determine how much will be generated from charging fees, that attention must be given to the number of septic tanks that have been installed. In calendar years 1986 through 1988, an average of 45,000 septic tank systems were installed. It is anticipated that approximately \$1.1 million in fees will be generated, if SB 960 is implemented. It must be pointed out that in any given year, the number of systems installed is directly related to the economy and its impact on the housing industry. For example, in calendar year 1982, a year in which the State and national economy faltered, 33,000 septic tank systems were installed. This means that if we experience an economic down trend down the road, the \$25.00 fee may have to be adjusted, particularly once the program is in place.

Proposed Budget To Implement SB 960

	1989-90 January 1, 1990	1990-91
Program Manager (1)		
Environmental Engineer (1)		
Soil Specialists (7)		
Secretary (1)		
Total Positions 10		
Subtotal	\$231,000	\$462,000
Information System	80,000	80,000
Subtotal	80,000	80,000
Research Activities		
Field Studies		
Training Activities		
Subtotal	291,000	583,000
TOTAL	\$602,000	\$1,125,000



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