

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: SB 117 (Second PCS)- Expand Membership/Legislative Commission

SHORT TITLE: Expand Membership/Legislative Commission

SPONSOR(S):

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>	<u>FY 2003-04</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES	\$23,552	\$13,439	\$23,552	\$13,439	\$23,552
POSITIONS:					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:	NC General Assembly				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	Upon Ratification				

BILL SUMMARY:

Increases membership of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations from 30 to 36. Adds the Deputy President pro tempore of the Senate, the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, and two (2) additional appointments each by the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Additionally, adds a member of the Senate and member of the House of Representatives to the Legislative Services Commission.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

The Commission meets monthly with a schedule that currently provides 14, two-day meetings during the biennium: nine (9) during the interim following the long session, and five (5) during

the interim following the short session. The membership consist of legislators who serve on the full Commission and legislators who only serve in an ad hoc capacity on the Commission's subcommittees.

The estimated increase in the biennial cost is \$35,395: \$22,754 for nine meetings, and \$12,641 for five meetings.

Expanding the number of legislators on the full Governmental Operations Commission also affects clerical support. The increased cost is divided between the expense (per diem and travel) for six (6) legislators, and the expense to support four of the six Legislative Assistants, who are available for office duty when members have meetings schedule.

	<i>Nine Meetings</i>	<i>Five Meetings</i>
Legislators' Cost	\$13,581	\$ 7,545
Clerical Cost	<u>\$ 9,173</u>	<u>\$ 5,096</u>
Total	\$22,754	\$12,641

Increases affect the budget for the Commission (legislators' expense) and the two Funds that support Senate and House Clerks. The Legislative Assistants for the Deputy President pro tempore of the Senate and the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives are assumed to be full time positions and do not require additional compensation for office duty when the Commission meets. Clerical cost could be further reduced, if any one of the four Legislative Assistants is also employed on a full time basis. The employment status of the positions is unknown at this time. Finally, there is no increase in the Commission's administrative expense.

Legislative Services Commission

The current membership of the commission consists of six members from each chamber appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives. In the past four fiscal years the commission has met four times: twice in 1995 and twice in 1998. Anticipating the commission may meet as it did in 1995 and 1998, the cost to increase membership is an estimated \$798 per year, for the additional travel and per diem of 2 additional members. There is no additional cost for the commission's administrative expense..

Per the understanding of the Legislative Services Office, membership to LSC for 1999-2000 has not been appointed

Impact on General Assembly's Budget

Because the recommended biennial budget for the General Assembly was not developed with an increase in the membership of either Commission, an appropriation for the additional funding is suggested. If the legislation is approved but an adjustment is not authorized to support the increased requirements, a potential source of support within the budget is the Reserve for the Legislative Services Commission.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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DATE: Wednesday, April 07, 1999



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