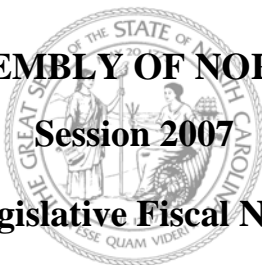


GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2007

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 1695 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Vehicle Size and Weight Changes.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Jenkins

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>	<u>FY 2010-11</u>	<u>FY 2011-12</u>	<u>FY 2012-13</u>
REVENUES					
State Highway Patrol	** See Assumptions and Methodology**				
EXPENDITURES	750,000				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: NC Department of Transportation, State Highway Patrol.					
EFFECTIVE DATE: When the bill becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY: Senate Bill 1695 makes a number of changes to size and weight restrictions on certain vehicles.

- Allows any individual with a Class C license to drive a combination of motor vehicles with a combined actual weight of less than 26,001 pounds and includes as part of the combination a boat and boat trailer, or a boat trailer.
- Allows 53' long trailers on all primary highways with certain exceptions whereas they were previously restricted to 48'.
- Eliminates the Sunday, holiday and nighttime restriction on boats wider than 102 inches wide. The nighttime restriction would remain in place for boats wider than 120 inches.
- Increases the maximum width for self propelled grain combines from 18 feet to 25 feet on certain roads.
- Allows trucks hauling raw logs to first market the same exemption as those hauling wood residuals such as mulch, wood chips sawdust or tree bark.
- Allows vehicles carrying agricultural products from the farm to first market to have gross weight of 90,000 pounds.
- Increases the maximum weight allowed for trucks carrying compressed seed cotton from 44,000 pounds to 64,000 pounds.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The Department of Transportation estimates that it will cost them \$750,000 to inspect and potentially re-rate the weight limit on bridges across the state. In order to perform this task in a timely manner (6-9 months), DOT would have to hire contractors.

The NC State Highway Patrol will see a decrease in revenues due to losing the \$100 permit previously issued for boat trailers, as well as from fines collected for citations previously written for the over size and/or overweight vehicles that would now be exempt with the passage of this bill. SHP was unable to provide an estimate for the loss of revenue at the time this note was written.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Transportation, State Highway Patrol.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: June 11, 2008



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