

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 369

SHORT TITLE: DARE/DART Program Expansion (First Edition)

SPONSOR(S): Senator Odom.

FISCAL IMPACT

Yes (X) No () No Estimate Available ()

FY 1997-98 FY 1998-99 FY 1999-00 FY 2000-01 FY 2001-02

REVENUES

EXPENDITURES \$363,300 \$250,000 \$250,000 \$250,000 \$250,000

POSITIONS: None

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & Department of Correction, Department of Justice, Department of Public Instruction.

PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Division of Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Department of Correction, State Bureau of Investigation, Local Law Enforcement Authorities and Local Educational Authorities

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1997

BILL SUMMARY: *TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR EXPANDING THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL RECOVERY TREATMENT CONTINUING CARE PROGRAM AND TO REQUIRE THE EXPANSION OF THE DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM TO THE SEVENTH AND NINTH GRADES AS PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED INITIATIVES.* Appropriates \$250,000 for 1997-98 and \$250,000 for 1998-99 from General Fund to Dep't of Correction. Amends GS 115C-47 to direct local school boards to use available state and federal resources to expand DARE program to seventh and ninth grades.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: The first part of this bill is a direct appropriation to fund community aftercare for offenders leaving the Drug and Alcohol Recovery Treatment program at Cherry Hospital. Based on current pilots, the \$250,000 figure should allow 90 day treatment for about 200 offenders each year.

The second part of the bill directs local boards of education to use available resources to expand the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) to 7th and 9th grades. Currently, Federal funds are used to support a regional training center (housed in the SBI) and for start-up/expansion funds for local school systems (through Department of Human Resources). As the bill is worded no fiscal impact on local school systems is anticipated.

The State Bureau of Investigation trains local law enforcement officers who visit classrooms. The current DARE curriculum covers grades k-12 but the core curriculum (17, one-hour lessons) is provided to 5th and 6th graders. The addition of two grade levels to the core curriculum will require training additional officers. The SBI estimates an additional 100 officers would need training at an estimated cost of \$1,133 per officer but they do not anticipate a fiscal impact on local law enforcement bodies. The training costs would be a onetime cost for training beyond the capacity possible under the existing federal funds.

The fiscal impact table above reflects the ongoing \$250,000 for DART aftercare and the one time \$113,300 for training additional DARE officers in 1997-98.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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