

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 521

SHORT TITLE: DOC Sexual Assault

SPONSOR(S): Senator Robert Carpenter

FISCAL IMPACT

	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1997-98</u>	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES*	\$212,250	\$370,250	\$370,250	\$370,250	\$370,250
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Correction and Department of Human Resources					
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1997					
*NOTE: Cost is based on providing training to DOC employees on handling sexual assault cases and counseling to DOC inmates -- cost will either be borne by DHR to provide such services or by DOC to pay costs through a contract with DHR.					

BILL SUMMARY: This bill would establish a Sexual Assault Program for inmates and staff of the Department of Correction (DOC). Program components include: (1) the provision of sexual assault information during inmate orientation; (2) sexual assault counseling services, upon request of an inmate; and (3) sexual assault training as a part of new employee orientation, and annually for all staff. All three components would be provided by DHR. Additionally, the bill includes an annual reporting requirement for DOC regarding certain components of the bill.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Department of Correction

SB 521 requires DHR to provide the counseling and training services listed in the bill to DOC. Assuming DHR will fund the services, there is no cost to DOC for these services. DOC staff

indicate that any adjustments to schedules or production of additional materials can be accommodated within current resources.

DOC is also required to classify inmates as potential sexual assaulters and as potential victims of sexual assault. DOC indicates that the current classification process includes a general assessment similar to the requirements of the bill and that the classification process can be modified to meet the specific requirements without additional cost. Data to track progress of the program can also be entered into current data systems without cost.

Department of Human Resources

A. Inmate Counseling:

The Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Substance Abuse Services (DMH), consulted with mental health staff within the Department of Correction to determine the number of inmates likely to request counseling. It was indicated by DOC that, given the program will be new, approximately 100 inmates may be expected to request sexual assault counseling within the first year of the program and 200 per year thereafter as program is more fully established. In order to develop cost estimates for inmate counseling, the following assumptions were used by DHR:

- 1) 100 inmates provided counseling services in Year 1;
- 2) 20 hours counseling services provided per inmate per year;
- 3) \$79/ hour for counseling services (based on DHR approved unit cost reimbursement system); and
- 4) 200 inmates provided counseling services each year in Years 2-5.

Year 1 – 100 inmates X 20 hours each = 2000 hours X \$79 hr. = \$158,000.

Year 2 -5 200 inmates X 20 hours each = 4000 hours X \$79 hr. = \$316,000

B. Employee Training

The DOC indicates that sexual assault training for new employees and current staff can be accommodated within the existing DOC training program. Therefore, the following assumptions were used to develop new employee/staff training costs:

- 1) Sexual assault training will be incorporated into DOC's Basic Training which is provided to all new institutional staff as part of the mandatory certification process {55 Basic Training classes annually x 2 hours per class x \$50/hour = \$5,500} (only for certified staff)
- 2) Sexual assault training will be incorporated into DOC's Annual (in-service) Training for all staff {97 facilities x 5 training sessions per facility x 1 hour @ \$50/hour = \$24,500}; and

- 3) Sexual assault training will be incorporated into DOC's Orientation Training provided to all non-custody institutional staff in DOC {97 facilities x 5 training sessions per facility x 1 hour @ \$50/hour = \$24,250} (non-certified staff)

Total per year \$54,250

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

PREPARED BY: Jim Mills and Karen Hammonds-Blanks

APPROVED BY: Tom CovingtonTomC

DATE: April 28, 1997



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices