NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: S 989 (PCS)

SHORT TITLE: Safe Schools Partnership Act, Committee Substitute

SPONSOR(S):

FISCAL IMPACT: Expenditures: Increase () Decrease ()

Revenues: Increase () Decrease ()

No Impact (x)

No Estimate Available ()

FUND AFFECTED: General Fund (x) Highway Fund () Local Fund ()

Other Fund ()

BILL SUMMARY:

SAFE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP ACT. "TO REQUIRE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ACTS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TO ADOPT CLEAR RULES REGARDING THE CONSEQUENCES OF COMMITTING VIOLENT ACTS AT SCHOOL, TO ENCOURAGE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND USE OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROGRAMS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS, AND TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO GRANT LEAVE AT A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON TIME TO EMPLOYEES FOR INVOLVEMENT AT THEIR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS."

Reports of violent acts. Requires local boards of education to report at least annually to the State Board of Education on all violent behavior, possession of weapons, and criminal acts committed on school property or at school-related functions, and to require the State Board to compile and report this information to the General Assembly. (Amending GS 115C-12 and 115C-47.)

Conflict resolution. Requires the State Board of Education to adopt a recommended list of conflict resolution education materials and curricula that include components for teacher training, and schools are encouraged in building-level plans addressing performance goals to include a comprehensive nonviolent conflict resolution program that includes instruction on responsible decision-making, the effects and causes of violence, nonviolent methods of resolving conflict including peer mediation, and cultural diversity. Amending GS 115C-238.1 and 115C-238.3.)

Parent involvement. Requires the State Board to adopt guidelines and resources to be used by building-level committees in developing parent involvement programs, and encourages building-level plans to include such programs. (Amending GS 115C-238.1 and 115C-238.3.)

Leave to participate in parental involvement programs. Effective Dec. 1, 1993, amends GS 95-28.3 to require all employers to allow employees to take up to four hours of leave per year to participate in parent involvement programs at any public or private school, including preschool and child day care facilities. Leave must be taken at a

mutually agreed upon time between employees and employers. Employers are not required to pay for leave taken under this program. Provides that an employee who is denied this right may within one year bring a civil action against the employer to obtain either lost wages or benefits or an order of reinstatement without loss of position, seniority, or benefits. Places burden of proof on the employee. Introduced by Gulley and Perdue.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 1993

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S)/PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Public Instruction

FISCAL IMPACT

<u>FY</u> <u>FY</u> <u>FY</u> <u>FY</u>

EXPENDITURES
TOTAL EXPENDITURES
STATE FUNDS
FEDERAL FUNDS
LOCAL FUNDS
OTHER FUNDS
RECEIPTS/FEES

POSITIONS:

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

- 1. The Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education can meet the requirements of the bill within existing budgeted funds.
- 2. The provision that provides that employers are not liable for payment for the four hours of leave, eliminates any potential cost to state or local governments.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Public Education

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

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