

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: HB 1350 - PCS4205-LT

SHORT TITLE: Small Business Information Assistance

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Shubert, Sexton, Allen, Berry, Brown, Davis, Eddins, Hurley, Morris, Mosley, Rayfield, and Warner.

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES	\$279,839	\$152,839	\$152,839	\$152,839	\$152,839
POSITIONS:	Two				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:	Secretary of State				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	Sections 1 through 5, 7, and 8 of this act become effective October 1, 1998. Sections 6 and 9 of this act become effective October 1, 1999. Section 10 of this act becomes effective July 1, 1998. The remainder of this act is effective upon passage.				

BILL SUMMARY:

Amends GS 147-54.11 through 147-54.20 to expand role of Business License Information Office within Secretary of State's office to provide the public with information regarding laws and regulations regarding business activities as well as providing information on business licensing matters, and to refer persons seeking information to particular individuals in appropriate agencies to obtain requested information. Requires this office to work with small business community to identify problems in state government related to unnecessary delays, inconsistencies between regulatory agencies, and inefficient and ineffective use of state resources, and to implement automated system to track number of inquiries received each year and resolution of inquiry. Applicant's identity, upon request, is confidential. Requires Secretary of State to

report to Joint Legislation Commission on Government Operations by November 1 of each year on most common and egregious problems public has had in communicating with and obtaining information from state agencies during previous year and to make any recommendations for legislative changes.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The Secretary of State reports a need for two additional positions, including equipment and supplies to carry out the additional duties described in the bill. The following table sets out the positions and associated costs:

Account Title	Recurring	Non-recurring
SPA Salaries -- 2 positions	\$78,339	
Workshop/Conference/ Food	\$6,000	
Workshop/Conference/ Lodging	\$7,000	
Travel	\$6,000	
Office Furniture		\$10,000
Office Equipment		\$20,000
Computer Equipment	\$3,000	\$22,000
Library & Learning Resources	\$5,000	
Office Supplies	\$4,000	
Telephone Services	\$2,000	
Data Processing Services	\$10,000	
System Re-write		\$75,000
Maintenance Agreement- Equip.	\$1,500	
Printing, Binding	\$20,000	
Other Emp. Educ. Expenses	\$10,000	
TOTAL	\$152,839	\$127,000

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

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DATE: July 2, 1998



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