## NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NUMBER**: Senate Bill 266 (Second Edition)

**SHORT TITLE**: Production and Sale of Red Deer

**SPONSOR(S)**: Senator Ledbetter, et al

## FISCAL IMPACT

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

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

**REVENUES** 

General Fund - Receipt Not Available

**EXPENDITURES** 

General Fund Use existing budget and personnel

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &

PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Agriculture - Meat & Poultry Inspection

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: The act is effective upon ratification.

**BILL SUMMARY**: The bill authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture to establish a fee for the inspection of red deer, during slaughtering, meat-canning, salting, packing, rendering, or similar processes.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY**: The Department of Agriculture/ Meat and Poultry Inspection section charges \$26/hour to inspect "exotic" animals such as bison, ostrich and fallow deer. The Department will charge the same inspection fee for red deer. Any revenue from this fee will be deposited as a receipt in the Meat and Poultry Inspection budget. The Department could ask the State Office of Budget & Management to increase their budget so that they may spend these receipts or the agency could apply them to their budget and reduce their General Fund appropriation.

The Department has not received a request for red deer inspection and did not know of any demand for red deer meat. The Department has had the authority to inspect fallow deer since

1991, but has not made one inspection. The bill was requested on behalf of a potential deer farmer in Buncombe County. Upon enactment of this bill, this farmer plans to acquire 20 to 25 red deer for breeding. It will take three to four years before enough deer are available for market. The number of other potential deer farmers in the state is unknown.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

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