

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: HB 628 (= SB 563)
SHORT TITLE: Charlotte School Zone Speed Cameras
SPONSOR(S): Representative Martha Alexander
Senator Charles Dannelly

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>	<u>FY 2003-04</u>
REVENUES	None				
EXPENDITURES	Modest Impact on the workload of Criminal Justice Training and Standards.				
POSITIONS:	None				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &	Department of Justice (Criminal Justice Training and Standards); Department of Crime Control and Public Safety; Administrative Office of the Courts				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	when becomes law				

BILL SUMMARY: Authorizes Charlotte to use photographic speed-measuring systems to enforce GS 20-141.1, regulating speeding in school zones. Provides that any violation of such section detected by a photographic speed-measuring system is not a infraction or misdemeanor but is a civil violation including a \$50 fine. Provides for appeal to Superior Court in the nature of certiorari if defendant disagrees with outcome of nonjudicial administrative hearing provided by the City. Requires the Criminal Justice Training and Standards (CJTS) Division and the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety to approve the photographic speed measuring system and for CJTS to develop standards for the calibration and testing of the system. Also requires CJTS to certify the technicians who would test and certify the equipment (Based in part on Daily Bulletin Summary, March 29, 1999)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

There is a potential for increased workload for Clerks of Court and the Superior Courts due to appeals from the administrative hearing. However, given the light penalty and fine, the number of reviews should be modest and the increased workload could be absorbed within existing resources of the Judicial System.

CRIME CONTROL AND PUBLIC SAFETY

The Highway Patrol currently plays a role in the approval of speed measuring devices (eg radar). This primarily involves keeping lists of approved vendors and models. They do not envision any significant impact on their workload from the addition of photographic speed monitoring devices in school zones in Charlotte.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Criminal Justice Training and Standards Division develops and maintains standards for calibration and testing of 25 different Speed Measuring Instruments (SMI). They also certify Law Enforcement personnel who test and certify the equipment.

They feel that the addition of photographic speed measuring devices to their responsibilities would have an impact on their workload. They are not currently familiar with the Speed Measuring Systems and they *may* involve different technology than the SMI. Their requirement to certify the technicians would be a departure from their normal work because the Charlotte personnel would be non law enforcement personnel. This may require different procedures.

Even if the technology is similar and there are no significant changes in procedures necessary to certify non-Law Enforcement personnel, this program would increase the number of required field inspections and technician tests administered by CJTS.

In 1997-98, CJTS maintained over 69,000 active certification files on Law Enforcement Personnel including 8,510 radar certification files. The addition of a handful of non Law Enforcement personnel (technicians for the equipment) should not significantly affect their workload, once the procedures are established. In terms of testing equipment, the addition of the Charlotte devices is not a significant increase to this workload, once they have been able to review the technology and develop standards. Fiscal Research Division believes there will be a modest one-time impact on CJTS in developing a response to HB 628. The impact can be absorbed within existing resources but would have some reducing impact on existing programs and activities.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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Official



Fiscal Research Division

Publication

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