

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2009

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 406 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: W.Just.Acad./Wldlife Res. Firing/Arch Range.

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Justus and Guice

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2009-10</u>	<u>FY 2010-11</u>	<u>FY 2011-12</u>	<u>FY 2012-13</u>	<u>FY 2013-14</u>
REVENUES:					
EXPENDITURES:					
POSITIONS (cumulative):					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Wildlife Resources Commission and the Department of Justice					
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon ratification.					

BILL SUMMARY:

March 4, 2009

Requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) to develop a plan for the construction and operation of a firing range on a ten-acre tract in the Big Hungry section of the Green River game land in Polk County. Requires that the plan provide for a range that can accommodate the needs of the criminal justice officers attending the Larry T. Justus Western Justice Academy; federal, state, and local agencies; community college law enforcement training; and the law enforcement officers of the WRC, as well as providing a facility for hunter safety classes supervised and conducted by the WRC and for public firing and archery range. Provides that any Department of Justice firing range adjacent to Justus Western Justice Academy is to be an indoor facility. Requires funds appropriated to DOJ for 2007-09 for a firing range at the Western Justice Academy to be used for planning and construction of the range developed under the plan.

Source: Bill Digest H.B. 406 (03/04/0200)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Section 1 of this bill requires the Wildlife Resources Commission and the Department of Justice to develop a plan for a firing range and an archery range both for law enforcement training and for public recreational use. The General Assembly authorized construction of the firing range at the Justus Western Justice Academy in 2007. Since Section 1 only requires a plan and planning for the construction is underway, there is no expected impact from this bill to either department.

The General Assembly appropriated \$1,974,103 in 2007 for the planning and construction of the firing range, of which only \$143,734 has been expended at this point. Section 3 directs DOJ to use the remaining funds for planning and construction at the new site in Polk County. DOJ estimates that this new site may require \$725,000 in additional funds to complete because of the expanded scope required by this bill.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Justice.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: G.S. 143C-8-7 provides that the General Assembly authorizes capital projects, regardless of the funding source. Currently, the Western Justice Academy Firing Range has an authorized project budget of \$1,974,103 consisting of only General Fund appropriations. If the bill proposes a larger project, both in scope and budget, then the bill should explicitly increase the project authority. This increase is needed even if the balance is to be paid from non-General Fund sources, such as gifts, grants, or Wildlife Resources Commission receipts.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910

PREPARED BY: Douglas Holbrook

APPROVED BY: Marilyn Chism, Director
Fiscal Research Division

DATE: May 7, 2009



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