



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Session 2019

Legislative Fiscal Note

Short Title: Assess Costs of Local LEO Crime Lab Analysis.
Bill Number: House Bill 323 (Second Edition)
Sponsor(s): Representatives Faircloth, McNeill, Boles, and Davis

SUMMARY TABLE

FISCAL IMPACT OF H.B. 323, V.2

	<u>FY 2019-20</u>	<u>FY 2020-21</u>	<u>FY 2021-22</u>	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>
State Impact					
General Fund Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Less Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-
General Fund Impact	No Fiscal Impact				

NET STATE IMPACT	No Fiscal Impact				
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Local Impact					
Local Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Less Local Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-

NET LOCAL IMPACT	No Estimate Available - Refer to Fiscal Analysis section				
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FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Fiscal Research does not anticipate any fiscal impact to the court system. There may be some fiscal impact to local governments that increase their use of outsourced crime lab analysis.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Section 1 of this bill would amend G.S. 7A-304(a) to allow for courts to charge a convicted defendant a \$600 fee for any crime lab analysis, whether performed by a locally-owned lab or contracted to a private lab.

Fiscal Research does not anticipate any fiscal impact to the court system from the changes in this bill. Many courts do not distinguish between locally-owned labs and contracted labs and already collect the \$600 fee, which the courts then disburse to the local governments. In FY 2017-18, the Administrative Office of the Courts disbursed \$136,146 to local governments from the local lab fee

and local expert fees. If local governments increase their use of private labs to conduct crime lab analysis, there may be an increase in revenues for local governments.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

N/A.

DATA SOURCES

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE – PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS

This document is an official fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Chapter 120 of the General Statutes and rules adopted by the Senate and House of Representatives. The estimates in this analysis are based on the data, assumptions, and methodology described in the Fiscal Analysis section of this document. This document only addresses sections of the bill that have projected direct fiscal impacts on State or local governments and does not address sections that have no projected fiscal impacts.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions on this analysis should be directed to the Fiscal Research Division at (919) 733-4910.

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