

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1093

SHORT TITLE: Highway Patrol Helicopter to Asheville

SPONSOR(S): Representative Nesbitt; Beall, Bowie, Cansler, Carpenter, Hightower, R. Hunter, Ives, Justus, Ramsey, Sherrill, Thompson, and G. Wilson.

FISCAL IMPACT

	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1997-98</u>	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>
REVENUES				<u>None</u>	
EXPENDITURES					
Lease (Hangar Space):	\$2,280	\$2,280	\$2,280	\$2,280	\$2,280
Costs for Flight Hours:	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$52,280	\$52,280	\$52,280	\$52,280	\$52,280

Note: Funding for Highway Patrol functions are provided via the Highway Fund.

POSITIONS: None.

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &

PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of State Highway Patrol.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1997.

BILL SUMMARY: HP HELICOPTER TO ASHEVILLE. *TO PERMANENTLY ASSIGN A HIGHWAY PATROL HELICOPTER AND THE NECESSARY OPERATING PERSONNEL TO ASHEVILLE TO SERVE THE WESTERN PART OF THE STATE.* As title indicates. Effective July 1, 1997.¹

¹ *Daily Bulletin*, Institute of Government, UNC-Chapel Hill: Vol. 1997, No. 47.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

State Highway Patrol

The North Carolina State Highway Patrol estimates the annual cost to move one OH-58 Helicopter to the Asheville Airport would be \$52,280. The State Highway Patrol would have to lease hangar space at the Asheville Airport for \$190 per month for an annual cost of \$2,280. The State Highway Patrol projects that approximately 500 flight hours will be carried out each year from the proposed site. At a cost of \$100 per hour to operate an OH-58 Helicopter, the total annual cost for operations would be \$50,000. There will be no personnel costs associated with the transfer of this helicopter to Asheville. The Highway Patrol already has a trained helicopter pilot that resides in the Town of Hendersonville. This is relatively close to Asheville and a pilot would not have to be transferred to Asheville from another location. Any aircraft maintenance would still be carried out in Salisbury, where other Highway Patrol aircraft are currently maintained. All funding for this move would be provided through the Highway Fund. The State Highway Patrol receives all operational funds from the Highway Fund.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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DATE: April 30, 1997



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