

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 666 (First Edition)  
**SHORT TITLE:** Halifax County Ambulance Service  
**SPONSOR(S):** Representatives Crawford; and Allen

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>					
	<b>Yes ( )</b>	<b>No (X)</b>	<b>No Estimate Available ( )</b>		
	<b><u>FY 2001-02</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2002-03</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2003-04</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2004-05</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2005-06</u></b>
<b>REVENUES</b>					
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
<b>POSITIONS:</b>					
<b>PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &amp; PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:</b>	Judicial Branch, Dept. of Correction and local jails.				
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	This act becomes effective December 1, 2001, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.				

**BILL SUMMARY:**

Section 1

Under existing G.S. 14-111.2, it is a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to obtain ambulance service with the intent to not pay for services rendered if financially able to do so. At present, this statute applies to 43 listed counties. This bill extends the coverage of this statute to Halifax County.

Section 2

Under existing G.S. 14-111.3 it is a Class 3 misdemeanor for any person to falsely report the need for, obtain, or request ambulance service. At present, this statute applies to 20 listed counties. This bill extends the coverage of this statute to Halifax County.

## **ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:**

### **Judicial Branch**

The AOC does not have an offense code for crimes committed under G.S. 14-111.2 and G.S. 14-111.3. They note, the absence of an offense code usually suggests that a relatively modest number of charges are filed. Therefore, Fiscal Research Division believes there would not be an increased fiscal impact on the AOC from the addition of Halifax County.

### **Department of Correction**

Since violation under G.S. 14-111.2 is a Class 2 misdemeanor and violation under G.S. 14-111.3 is a Class 3 misdemeanor, Fiscal Research does not expect an impact on the prison population. In FY 1999/2000, 11% of all Class 2 misdemeanor convictions resulted in active sentences. The average sentence length imposed was 24 days. In addition, 17% of Class 3 misdemeanors resulted in active sentences in 1999/2000, with an average sentence length of 8 days. Sentences under 90 days are served in county jails.

While there is some chance an offender could be sentenced to jail under this statute, because AOC data suggests charges are relatively rare in the 42 currently covered counties, Fiscal Research assumes no fiscal impact even on county jails from extension to 1 additional county.

**SOURCES OF DATA:** Department of Correction; Judicial Branch; North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** SB 336 extends GS 14-111.2 and 111.3 to 7 additional counties, including Halifax. That is, HB 666 is subsumed in SB 336.

**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION:** 733-4910

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**APPROVED BY:** James D. Johnson

**DATE:** April 17, 2001



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