

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 446 (Senate Finance Committee Substitute)

SHORT TITLE: Pharmacy Technicians

SPONSOR(S): Senator Purcell

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>	<u>FY 2003-04</u>	<u>FY 2004-05</u>	<u>FY 2005-06</u>
REVENUES					
Special Fund	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000
EXPENDITURES					
Special Fund		To be determined by Board			
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: North Carolina Board of Pharmacy					
EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill becomes effective January 1, 2002.					

BILL SUMMARY: The bill creates a registration program for pharmacy technicians and will require pharmacy technicians to pay an annual \$25 registration fee.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: The Executive Director of the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy estimates that there are 4,200 pharmacy technicians in the state. This estimate appears reasonable given that 4,200 personnel divided by the 1,983 pharmacy permits in North Carolina issued as of September 30, 2000, would yield approximately 2 technicians per pharmacy. Furthermore, 1,543 NC pharmacy technicians have taken the initiative to earn National Certification for Pharmacy Technicians through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.

Section 4 of the bill authorizes a \$25 annual registration fee for pharmacy technicians. At \$25 per pharmacy technician, the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy will receive \$105,000 in FY 2001-02. The Board of Pharmacy expects little or no growth in the number of pharmacy technicians over the next five years. While the number of prescriptions filled grew 50% and the number of pharmacists grew 23% between 1992 and 1998, the Board of Pharmacy reported that the number of retail pharmacies fell 6% in that period.

Section 4 of the bill also eliminates a \$10 fee for assistant pharmacists. This fee is no longer charged and thus the Board would like to remove it from the statutes.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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DATE: June 27, 2001



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