

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2009

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 749 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Use of Cisterns in Construction/Renovation.

SPONSOR(S): Representative K. Alexander

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):	N/A				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Insurance					
EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill is effective when it becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY: House Bill 749 amends GS 143-138(b), the state building code, to contain rules pertaining to the construction or renovation of residential or commercial buildings and structures that allow the use of cisterns, installed indoor or outdoor and located underground, at ground level, or on elevated stands, to provide water for flushing toilets and for outdoor irrigation. The term *cistern* is defined in this bill as a storage tank that is watertight, has smooth interior surfaces and enclosed lids, and is fabricated of nonreactive materials such as reinforced concrete, galvanized steel, or plastic, and that is designed to collect rainfall from a catchment area. This bill prohibits state, county, or local building codes or regulations from prohibiting the use of cisterns for such uses.

Source: Bill Digest H.B. 749 (03/23/0200)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The Department of Insurance anticipates no fiscal impact from the adoption of this bill. If implemented, the bill's proposed changes to GS 143-138(b) would be noted at the next Building Code Council committee meeting as part of the committee's ongoing reports on legislative changes.

While the fiscal impact to the State is negligible, the Department of Insurance noted that the installation of cisterns is voluntary and that citizens who choose to install cisterns would be impacted by a wide range of potential purchase costs. Cisterns for home use vary in both material and price; a 1,000 gallon concrete septic tank/cistern placed in the ground would cost approximately \$2,500 to \$3,000, while a 1,000 gallon plastic tank would cost approximately \$650 to \$700. Further expenses would be incurred by the purchase of pumps, filters, and pipes.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Insurance

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: March 30, 2009



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