

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2009

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 834 (Fourth Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Rewrite Sanitarian Examiners Laws/Fees.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Bingham

FISCAL IMPACT (\$)					
	Yes (X)	No ()	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: State Board of Environmental Health Specialist Examiners					
	Revenue increase of between \$21,545 and \$36,545 annually				
	See Assumptions and Methodology				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: State Board of Environmental Health Specialist Examiners					
EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when bill becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 834 amends G.S. 90A-50 to change the name of the State Board of Sanitarian Examiners to the State Board of Environmental Health Specialist Examiners and amends the names of positions regulated by the Board to correspond with that change. Senate Bill 834 adds an administrative fee for those applying for new registration as an Environmental Health Specialist with a maximum of \$100.00. It raises the maximum fee for transferring registration from another state from \$35.00 to \$100.00 and raises the maximum fee for renewing a certificate from \$35.00 to \$100.00 for applications mailed before January 1 and \$125.00 for applications mailed after this date. The bill also authorizes a maximum fee of 150.00 for administering an examination. Lastly, the bill lowers the maximum per diem for Board members to \$50.00 (was \$100.00) and adds three additional members to the Board.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

While Senate Bill 834 alters some of the language regarding the State Board of Sanitarian Examiners, this language change is not expected to materially alter who qualifies for positions regulated by the Board and, therefore, is not expected to have a fiscal impact.

SB 834 increases the number of members on the Board from nine to twelve. The State Board of Sanitarian Examiners projects that none of these new members will receive the per diem, meaning this change will have no impact on expenditures. The bill also changes the maximum per diem members may receive. The Board states that, currently, no one claims a per diem above \$50.00. While the bill lowers the maximum per diem, because no one currently claims a per diem above \$50.00, this change will have no fiscal impact.

Senate Bill 834 adds an administrative fee of up to \$100.00 for registering as an Environmental Health Specialist. The State Board of Sanitarian Examiners plans to charge \$50 for registration during the next five years. The Board estimates that around 100 people applied for registration as Environmental Health Specialists last year. This number is fairly consistent and is not expected to be greater than 100 in the future. The administrative fee multiplied by the number of people who apply for registration results in the fiscal impact due to the imposition of this fee. This results in a \$5,000 increase in revenues for Fiscal Year 2009-10. Should the Board, however, impose a higher fee up to the \$100 maximum allowed by this bill, the increase could be as high as \$10,000 annually.

Senate Bill 834 authorizes the Board to levy an administrative examination fee of up to \$150.00. A fee is currently charged for examinations equal to the cost of the examination. The Board performs around 100 examinations a year. The Board has not determined how much this administrative fee will be. Assuming the State Board of Sanitarian Examiners charges the maximum administrative fee, this could result in a revenue increase as high as \$15,000 annually.

SB 834 raises the maximum fee for transferring registration as an Environmental Health Specialist from another state from \$35.00 to \$100.00. The State Board of Sanitarian Examiners plans to raise this fee to \$50. According to the Board, around 3 people apply to transfer their registration from another state each year. This number is expected to remain constant in the future. The \$15.00 increase multiplied by the number of people who transfer registration results in the fiscal impact from the fee increase. This results in a \$45.00 increase in revenues for Fiscal Year 2009-10. Should the Board, however, impose a higher fee up to the \$100 maximum allowed by this bill, the increase could be as high as \$195 annually.

SB 834 raises the maximum fee for renewing registration as an Environmental Health Specialist from \$35.00 to \$125.00 for applications mailed after January 1. Applications mailed before this date will have a maximum fee of \$100.00. The Board plans to charge \$50 for renewals during the next five years. There are currently 1,100 people registered as Environmental Health Specialists in the State of North Carolina. They are required to renew their registration annually. The \$15.00 increase multiplied by the number of people registered as Environmental Health Specialists results in the increase in the increase in revenues due to the fee increase. This results in a \$16,500 increase in revenues for Fiscal Year 2009-10. The Board does not have a record of the number of applications mailed after January 1. However, assuming all applications are mailed before January 1, should the board impose a higher fee up to the \$100 maximum allowed by this bill, the increase could be as high as \$71,500 annually.

The total fiscal impact from SB 834 is the summation of the increases in revenues expected due to the fee changes. This results in a total revenue increase, depending on the amount of the

examination administrative fee, of between \$21,545 and \$36,545 for FY 2009-10. Should the Board, however, impose the maximum fees allowed by this bill, the total revenue increase could be as high as \$96,195 annually.

SOURCES OF DATA: State Board of Sanitarian Examiners

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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