NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: SB 616

SHORT TITLE: Felony Assault/Law-Enforcement Animal

SPONSOR(S): Senator Shaw

FISCAL IMPACT: Expenditures: Increase () Decrease ()
Revenues: Increase () Decrease ()
No Impact (X)

BILL SUMMARY: "TO MAKE IT A FELONY TO MAIM, TO SERIOUSLY INJURE, OR TO KILL A LAW-ENFORCEMENT ANIMAL." G.S. 14-163.1 now makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to kill or cause serious injury to an animal used for law enforcement purposes. This bill expands the statute to include maiming, and upgrades the punishment to Class I felony status.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 1995; applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S)/PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Judicial Branch; Department of Correction

FISCAL IMPACT

FY 95-96 **FY** 96-97 **FY** 97-98 **FY** 98-99 **FY** 99-00

EXPENDITURES NON-RECURRING RECURRING NO FISCAL IMPACT

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The Administrative Office of the Courts does not anticipate that the proposed legislation would have a substantial impact on the Judicial Branch as assaults on law enforcement animals are relatively rare. Thus, the Administrative Office of the Courts believes that the few additional cases that could result from the proposed legislation could be handled within existing resources.

Likewise, the proposed legislation is not anticipated to have a significant impact on the Department of Correction due to the small number of cases involving assaults on law enforcement animals.

SOURCES OF DATA: Administrative Office of the Courts; North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION (733-4910)

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DATE: April 25, 1995

[FRD#003]



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