

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NUMBER: SB 839 (2nd edition)

SHORT TITLE: Graduated Drivers Licenses

SPONSOR(S): Committee Substitute

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

FUND AFFECTED: **General Fund ()** **Highway Fund (X)** **Local Govt. ()**
 Other Funds ()

BILL SUMMARY: The bill would establish two levels of drivers licenses for persons under the age of 18. Learners permits would be issued to persons of at least 15 years of age, and provisional licenses would be issued to persons of 16 and 17 years of age, only if they had held a learners permit for at least six months. Additional requirements for each level would also apply.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1997.

FISCAL IMPACT: The bill would cause a small increase in Highway Fund revenue, but the size of the increase can not be determined. Under current law, drivers 16 and older can acquire a license without having possessed a learner's permit. Under the bill, in order to acquire a license before turning 18, a driver would be required to have possessed a learner's permit for at least 6 months. As such, any drivers who would otherwise have waited until age 16 to acquire their license, would have to acquire a learner's permit and pay a \$10.00 fee if they wished to acquire a license before age they reached 18.

The Division of Motor Vehicles does not keep records of the number of drivers who: 1) acquire their licenses between age 16 and 18: and 2) have never held a learner's permit. As a result, the number of drivers affected by this provision can not be determined, and the amount that learner's permit fee revenue would increase can not be estimated.

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DATE:

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