

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1415 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Report Denial of Some Pistol Permits.

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Sutton and Jeffus

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
EXPENDITURES:					
Dept. of Justice (R)		* See Assumptions & Methodology – p. 2 *			
(NR) \$38,500					
Counties		Cannot be determined			
POSITIONS					
(cumulative):		* See Assumptions & Methodology – p.2 *			
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Justice; County Sheriffs' Departments.					
EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 2005					

BILL SUMMARY: The second edition of this bill would require sheriffs to report the denial of a license or permit to purchase a pistol to the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) in the Department of Justice, which would be required to maintain that information in a database accessible to sheriffs statewide. The report and database would contain a statement that a license or permit was denied, the date of denial, the county in which the permit was denied, and information sufficient to identify the applicant. The bill also requires that sheriffs report to the SBI any successful appeal of the denial, and that the SBI subsequently remove the associated record from the database.

Source: Adapted from Bill Digest H.B. 1415 (04/21/2005)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The number of pistol permit applications that are denied each year is unknown. However, the SBI does keep data on the number of applications for permits to carry concealed handguns, and none of these applications have been denied in the last two years. This is some indication that the number of pistol permit applications denied by sheriffs may be relatively low.

SBI: One-time costs. The SBI plans to modify its Division of Criminal Information (DCI) system. Sheriffs will be able to enter information on pistol permit denials directly into the DCI database. The Department of Justice anticipates that the SBI will need \$30,000 for an information technology convenience contract and \$8,500 for computer equipment to enhance the DCI database.

SBI: Ongoing costs. The Department has stated that the SBI would need an additional Grade 70 fingerprint technician to implement this bill on an ongoing basis. Minimum salary for the position would be \$32,940. Total position costs would be \$57,407 in the first year and \$53,007 thereafter. However, since the data entry will be done by sheriffs' offices, and the number of denials is unknown, it is not clear that there would be a significant increase in the SBI's ongoing workload. Therefore, these costs have not been included in the front page box.

County Sheriffs. The sheriffs do not have aggregate data on the number of pistol permit applications that are denied, and therefore cannot project the impact of this bill. The NC Sheriffs' Association has noted that the planned implementation by the SBI – allowing the sheriffs to enter this information directly into DCI – would be the easiest for them. DCI is the database the sheriffs access to check for a criminal history on a pistol permit applicant.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Justice; NC Sheriffs' Association.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910

PREPARED BY: Chloe Gossage

APPROVED BY: James D. Johnson, Director
Fiscal Research Division



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Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices