

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2007

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1357 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Military Children May Attend Public Schools

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Daughtry and Killian

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>	<u>FY 2010-11</u>	<u>FY 2011-12</u>
REVENUES					
Local Education Agencies		**See Assumptions & Methodology**			
EXPENDITURES					
Local Education Agencies		**See Assumptions & Methodology**			
State Public School Fund		**See Assumptions & Methodology**			
POSITIONS (cumulative): N/A					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Local Education Agencies (LEAs), State Public School Fund					
EFFECTIVE DATE: The act is effective when it becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY: This bill amends GS 115C-366(a3)(1) to allow a child who is not a domiciliary of a local education authority (LEA) to attend the public schools of that LEA without having to pay tuition – so long as the child’s parent or guardian has been called to active military duty or active duty with the National Guard, and resides with an adult who is a domiciliary of that LEA. The period of active duty must be for 30 days or more.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: This bill could have a fiscal impact on the State, as well as LEAs. Unfortunately, no data is available detailing:

- The number of children in military families currently being charged admission to attend school in an LEA other than where the child is a domiciliary;
- The number of children in military families that would move into another LEA if this bill were to pass; and
- The number of children in military families that would move into the State as a result of this bill.

Without such data, it is impossible to place any dollar figures on the fiscal impact that this bill would have on the State or LEAs. Additionally, the fiscal impact would change based on whether or not military conflicts increase or decrease in the coming years.

State Impact

This bill would likely have a limited fiscal impact on the State Public School Fund. The bill would only have an effect on the State Public School Fund if children of military families moved into North Carolina from another state *as a result of this bill*. These children would create additional expenditures for the State by increasing the average daily membership (ADM) of school children within the State. It is nearly impossible to determine if this bill will have any effect on temporary in-migration from this specific subset of the population.

LEA Impact

This bill is more likely to have an impact on the LEA level, although the size of the impact is indeterminable. LEAs could be impacted by this bill in two ways:

- Revenue impact: LEAs currently charging tuition to non-domiciliary children whose parents are away on active duty would no longer be allowed to charge tuition.
- Expenditure impact: Certain LEAs might have a net increase in the number of non-domiciliary children moving into that LEA to live with relative or family friend while the child's parents or guardian are away on active duty, thereby increasing local educational expenditures. Alternatively, an LEA could lose students who move out of the LEA while their parents or guardian are away on active duty, thereby decreasing local educational expenditures. In both cases, the change in expenditure is only a fiscal impact of this bill if the child moved as a result of this bill.

As stated above, there is no data detailing the number of children in military families currently being charged admission to attend school in an LEA other than where the child is a domiciliary, nor is there any way to determine future intra-LEA movements of the children of military members that would be created as a result of this bill.

SOURCES OF DATA: None

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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