

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 153

SHORT TITLE: N. C. Rail Council

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Stamey, Bowie, Fussell, et al

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

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

BILL SUMMARY: This bill will create an 18-member North Carolina Rail Council in the Department of Transportation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1993

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S)/PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:
Department of Transportation - Public Transportation and Rail Program

	FISCAL IMPACT				
	<u>FY</u> 1993-94	<u>FY</u> 1994-95	<u>FY</u> 1995-96	<u>FY</u> 1996-97	<u>FY</u> 1998-99
REVENUES:					
GENERAL FUND					
HIGHWAY FUND					
HIGHWAY TRUST FUND					
LOCAL					
EXPENDITURES	\$8,682	\$8,682	\$8,682	\$8,682	\$8,682

POSITIONS: None

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: No additional appropriation would be needed if Board of Transportation used existing work order for Governor's Task Force on Rail Passenger Service.

SOURCES OF DATA: G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6; Department of Transportation

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Council Expense - The only required expense of the proposed North Carolina Rail Council is for per diem, travel and subsistence in 143B-363(e). Council members are entitled to \$15 per diem, 25¢ per mile travel, and \$55 subsistence (\$21 without hotel). Members who travel the day before the meeting and spend the night in a hotel receive 2 days subsistence and 2 days per diem.

Given that the 14 gubernatorial appointees represent the 14 Highway Divisions across the State, round trip mileage was based on the distance of the division headquarters from Raleigh (see attached). The average round trip from these Division offices is 245 miles. Legislative appointees are also assigned 245 miles round trip for mileage reimbursement.

Since the Council has no required number of meetings, this fiscal note assumes quarterly gatherings. It is also assumed that only 1/3 of the 18 members will require lodging for the night prior to the meeting. The cost of 4 meetings is as follows:

Per diem	\$15 x 4 meetings x 12 members =	\$720
Per diem (w/lodging)	15 x 2 days x 4 meetings x 6 members =	720
Mileage	25¢ x 245 miles x 4 meetings x 18 members =	4,410
Sub (no lodging)	\$21 x 4 meetings x 12 members =	1,008
Sub (lodging)	\$76 x 4 meetings x 6 members =	1,824
		<u>\$8,682</u>

Funding for Council - The first option for Rail Council funding is by a direct appropriation from the Highway Fund. An alternative method is to transfer funds from State Aid to Public Transportation. (This \$3 million program is a Highway Fund appropriation based on 50¢ per registered vehicle in the State.) The Board of Transportation can establish a work order to charge Council expenses. This procedure was done from 1988 to 1992 to fund the Governor's Task Force on Rail Passenger Service. In fact, the work order for the Task Force has a fund balance of \$39,520 that could be reallocated and used to fund the Rail Council.

The clerical and other services needed by the Rail Council can be provided by the Public Transportation and Rail Division without added expense.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION
733-4910
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DATE: March 9, 1993
[FRD#001]



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices

ATTACHMENT 1

<u>DIVISION HEADQUARTERS</u>	<u>MILES FROM RALEIGH</u>
1. Ahoskie (Elizabeth City*)	165
2. Greenville	85
3. Wilmington	123
4. Wilson	47
5. Durham	23
6. Fayetteville	59
7. Greensboro	78
8. Aberdeen	71
9. Winston-Salem	104
10. Albemarle	109
11. North Wilkesboro	160
12. Shelby	184
13. Asheville	241
14. Sylva (Waynesville*)	267
	<u>1,716</u>
	x 2 trips =
	3,432 miles - 14 =
	245 miles round trip

* Nearest city on mileage chart