## NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NUMBER**: House Bill 1578 (First Edition)

**SHORT TITLE**: Pender Rescue Service Fee.

**SPONSOR(S)**: Representative Justice

FISCAL IMPACT

Yes (X) No ( ) No Estimate Available ( )

FY 2004-05 FY 2005-06 FY 2006-07 FY 2007-08 FY 2008-09

**REVENUES** 

General Fund \* No General Fund Impact \*

Pender County \* See Assumptions and Methodology \*

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &

**PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED**: Pender County.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: When it becomes law.

**BILL SUMMARY**: The legislation authorizes Pender County to levy an Emergency Medical Service Fee. It is a flat fee per parcel, and applies to a list of thirty-two different types of facilities. The fee is a lien on the property and must be collected in the same manner as property taxes.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY**: Currently Pender County levies a special property tax to fund emergency medical services. For 2003-04, the rate is set at  $7\phi$  per \$100 valuation. The legislation would authorize Pender to levy a flat fee per parcel for emergency medical services. This means that the owner of a single family home would pay the same annual fee as the owner of a motel or medical clinic.

The Pender County manager, Andy Hedrick, indicates that the County plans to impose a flat emergency medical service fee of \$60 per parcel. Applying this rate to the estimated 24,000 parcels (with a 95% collection rate) suggest revenues from the fee of \$1,368,000. According to the manager, this level of fee will allow the County to reduce the property tax rate for emergency medical services from  $7\phi$  to  $3\phi$  per \$100 valuation, with the combined revenue equaling the current revenue from a  $7\phi$  tax.

**SOURCES OF DATA**: Pender County.

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