

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2011

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 911 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Increase Criminal Court Costs/Victims Comp.

SPONSOR(S): Representative LaRoque

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2011-12</u>	<u>FY 2012-13</u>	<u>FY 2013-14</u>	<u>FY 2014-15</u>	<u>FY 2015-16</u>
REVENUES:					
Victim's Comp. Fund					Estimated \$9,886,960 annually
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Judicial Branch					
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011					

BILL SUMMARY:

The proposed legislation amends G.S. 7A-304(a) by adding a new subdivision which will increase the court costs for district court, including cases before a magistrate, and superior court by ten dollars, which is to be credited to the Victims Compensation Fund established in G.S. 15B-23. The bill becomes effective July 1, 2011.

SOURCE: BILL DIGEST H.B. 911 (05/04/0201)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Judicial Branch

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) estimates that, annually, fees will be collected in 2,697 superior court criminal cases and 985,999 district court criminal cases (including criminal cases heard by a magistrate). Thus, it is estimated that this bill may generate up to \$9,886,960 (2,697 cases times \$10 plus 985,999 cases times \$10) for the Victim's Compensation Fund. It is possible, however, that with any fee increase the percent of cases achieving full payment may subsequently decline. AOC has no data upon which to estimate the potential drop in payment compliance due to this fee increase.

SOURCES OF DATA: Judicial Branch

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910

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