

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2023 Session

Legislative Fiscal Note

Short Title: State Bar Authority for Certain Fees.-AB

Bill Number: House Bill 194 (First Edition)

Sponsor(s): Rep. Stevens

SUMMARY TABLE

FISCAL IMPACT OF H.B.194, V.1

| | FY 2023-24 | FY 2024-25 | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 | FY 2027-28 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| State Impact | | | | | |
| Other Fund Revenues | 4,988 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 |
| Less Expenditures | | <u> </u> | | | |
| Other Fund Impact | 4,988 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 |
| NET STATE IMPACT | 4,988 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 | 6,650 |

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

H.B. 194 amends G.S. 84-34.2, Specific statutory authority for certain fees, to permit the Council of the North Carolina State Bar to impose administrative fees on attorneys under noncompliance suspensions or participating in diversion programs offered by the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar. The bill is effective October 1, 2023.

Utilizing the estimated fee amounts provided by the North Carolina State Bar, Fiscal Research estimates the administrative fees will generate at least \$6,550 annually to the North Carolina State Bar.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

On average over the last five years, one attorney has received a noncompliance suspension each year. The North Carolina State Bar has not yet determined the proposed fee amount for noncompliance suspensions but anticipates it will be at least \$350 and potentially as high as \$750. Thus, Fiscal Research anticipates this fee will generate at least \$350 annually to the North Carolina State Bar.

On average over the last five years, 18 attorneys have participated in a diversion program each year. The North Carolina State Bar has not yet determined the proposed fee amount for participating in a diversion program but expects it to be at least \$350, which is the amount charged to attorneys who receive discipline. Thus, Fiscal Research anticipates this fee will generate at least \$6,300 annually to the North Carolina State Bar.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

N/A.

DATA SOURCES

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE - PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS

This document is an official fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Chapter 120 of the General Statutes and rules adopted by the Senate and House of Representatives. The estimates in this analysis are based on the data, assumptions, and methodology described in the Fiscal Analysis section of this document. This document only addresses sections of the bill that have projected direct fiscal impacts on State or local governments and does not address sections that have no projected fiscal impacts.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions on this analysis should be directed to the Fiscal Research Division at (919) 733-4910.

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