



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2025 Session

Legislative Fiscal Note

Short Title: Criminal Background Check For Athlete Agents.
Bill Number: House Bill 543 (First Edition)
Sponsor(s): Rep. Charles Smith, Rep. Willis, Rep. K. Hall, and Rep. T. Brown

SUMMARY TABLE

	FISCAL IMPACT OF H.B.543, V.1				
	<u>FY 2025-26</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>	<u>FY 2027-28</u>	<u>FY 2028-29</u>	<u>FY 2029-30</u>
State Impact					
General Fund Revenue	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
<u>Less Expenditures</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
General Fund Impact	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
NET STATE IMPACT	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

H.B. 543 raises registration and renewal fees for athlete agent licensure from \$200 to \$250, generating an additional \$12,500 in General Fund revenue annually. The bill also requires criminal background checks performed by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), which would result in no net State impact on the General Fund.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

The North Carolina Uniform Athlete Agents Act requires individuals who wish to serve as athlete agents to register with the North Carolina Secretary of State before acting as an athlete agent in the State. The fees for initial registration and the annual renewal of the registration are both \$200. These fees are equal for in-State and out-of-State applicants.

This bill would increase the initial registration and annual renewal fees for applicants from \$200 to \$250. These funds are currently, and would continue to be, deposited fully into the General Fund. According to the Secretary of State's office, there were 70 applications for initial registration and 180 applications for renewed registration in FY 2023-24, all of which carried a \$200 fee paid by the applicant and deposited into the General Fund. Increasing initial and renewal fees by \$50 would increase General Fund revenue by approximately \$12,500 in FY 2025-26 and subsequent years, provided the same number of initial and renewal applications occur as did in FY 2023-24

(70 initial registrations times an additional \$50 equals \$3,500, plus 180 renewal registration times an additional \$50 equals \$9,000, for a total of \$12,500).

The bill would also amend G.S. 78C-89.1 to require that all athlete agent applicants undergo a criminal background check, including a criminal records check and fingerprint check, performed by SBI. The cost of the background check would be paid by the applicant, collected by the Secretary of State, and remitted to SBI to cover the cost of the service. Because these additional funds directly cover the full cost of SBI's expenditures associated with the background check service, there would be no net General Fund impact to the State as a result of this provision.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Secretary of State's office currently performs criminal background checks through Accurant, a third-party background check service by LexisNexis, for applicants seeking athlete agent licensure. This bill would codify the background check requirement, require the check to be performed through SBI, and require a fingerprint check in addition to a criminal records check.

DATA SOURCES

NORTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE

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.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY

Jacob Sargent

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY

Brian Matteson, Director of Fiscal Research
Fiscal Research Division
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