

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: HB 457

SHORT TITLE: Recognize American Sign Language (Committee Substitute)

SPONSOR(S): Representative Fitch

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

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

BILL SUMMARY: Directs Department of Human Resources to establish training and certification of programs to promote American Sign Language as optional language for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, aged birth to 21 years, and provides that American Sign Language may be offered as a modern language with credit for individuals in the public school system and the UNC System. Amends GS 115C-81 and adds GS 116-255 to embody the latter requirement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon ratification.

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S)/PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Human Resources, Department of Public Instruction, UNC System

	FISCAL IMPACT				
	<u>FY 95-96</u>	<u>FY96-97</u>	<u>FY97-98</u>	<u>FY98-99</u>	<u>FY99-00</u>
REVENUES:					
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND					
HIGHWAY TRUST FUND					
LOCAL					
EXPENDITURES	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
POSITIONS:	0	0	0	0	0

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

1. Sec. 2, page 3, lines 11-18: Within the Department of Human Resources (DHR), the procedures and personnel exist to conduct training and certification of ASL programs. Currently, DHR uses a video-based program to train ASL instructors in the residential schools for the deaf. However, DHR would incur approximately \$10,000 additional cost each year to expand this video-based training program. These costs include postage (\$2,500), travel (\$3,500), and training materials/equipment (\$4,000).

2. Sec. 3, page 3, lines 20-24 and Sec. 4, page 3, lines 29-34: This bill is permissive, not mandatory, in nature. Therefore, this bill requires no additional costs to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) or the UNC System.

SOURCES OF DATA: DHR, DPI, and UNC System

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Recommend changing line 22 on page 3 from "...guidelines to be developed by the State Board of Education...." to "...guidelines to be approved by the State Board of Education...." DPI has the authority to develop these guidelines.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

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DATE: June 26, 1995



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