## NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NUMBER**: S.B. 313 Mecklenburg Stormwater Fees

**SHORT TITLE**: Mecklenburg Stormwater Fees

**SPONSOR(S)**: Sen. Clodfelter

## FISCAL IMPACT

Yes ( ) No ( ) No Estimate Available (x)

FY 1999-00 FY 2000-01 FY 2001-02 FY 2002-03 FY 2003-04

**REVENUES** No General Fund Impact

**See Assumptions and Methodology** 

**EXPENDITURES** 

**No General Fund Impact** 

See Assumptions and Methodology

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &

**PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED**: Mecklenburg County Government.

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

**BILL SUMMARY**: Under current law stormwater fees can not be collected when two or more units of local government operate separate stormwater systems in the same area, unless those communities agree to build and operate the systems jointly. This bill alters that provision to authorize communities to levy stormwater fees without joint participation, in certain circumstances. These fees can only be levied to make payments on an existing bond, or meet reserve or other similar requirements of the existing bond. The new provision only applies when the stormwater fees have been pledged as a funding source for repayment of the bonds. The bill applies only to Mecklenburg County.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:** According to officials in Mecklenburg County's Engineering and Building Structures Department, Mecklenburg County is considering using revenue bonds to fund stormwater related construction. They hope to pledge the revenue from stormwater fees as a funding source for the bond. They believe this bill would make stormwater fees a more stable funding source, and a stronger pledge to finance a revenue bond.

Because the bill addresses only local bonds, there is no state impact. While the bill could make issuance of a revenue bond in Mecklenburg County more likely, it will not have a direct fiscal impact on the community <u>unless</u> a revenue bond were issued. If a bond were issued, the bill would have a fiscal impact upon the County's General Fund. However, because neither the amount nor the terms of a bond are available, no reliable fiscal estimate is possible for the potential fiscal impact on Mecklenburg County.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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