

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 898 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: The Student Citizen Act of 2001

SPONSOR(S): Senator Dalton

FISCAL IMPACT

Yes () No (X-State) No Estimate Available (X-Local)

FY 2001-02 FY 2002-03 FY 2003-04 FY 2004-05 FY 2005-06

REVENUES

EXPENDITURES

POSITIONS:

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &

PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction, Local Boards of Education

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001, with curriculum revisions to be implemented for the 2002-03 school year and the dress code provision effective for the 2001-02 school year.

BILL SUMMARY: Modifies GS 115C-81 regarding the Basic Education Program to require the high school and middle school social studies curricula to include instruction in civic and citizenship education (at the high school level to be offered as a one-week unit or throughout the year). Specifies items encouraged to be included within the curricula. Amends character education curriculum requirements to include items on responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship. Clarifies that local boards of education must develop and implement character education with input from the local community. Amends GS 115C-391(a) to direct local boards of education to adopt reasonable dress codes.

Bill Digest, April 5, 2001 and April 12, 2001

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

- The State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction are currently going through the revision process for the social studies curriculum. If SB 898 passes, the required revisions could be included in the current process.
- Local boards of education are required to develop and implement character education instruction and dress codes; these are currently at the discretion of the local board. Some time and expense would accrue to the local education agencies in developing these items, but the cost should primarily be a one-time expense and would more than likely be absorbed within existing resources. Currently 47 local school systems have a character education program; approximately 20 more are in some stage of developing a program. This implies that 50 local boards would have to develop a character education program.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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DATE: May 14, 2001



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