



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2023 Session

Legislative Fiscal Note

Short Title: NC Genetic Counselors Workforce Act.
Bill Number: House Bill 587 (Second Edition)
Sponsor(s):

SUMMARY TABLE

FISCAL IMPACT OF H.B. 587, V.2 (\$ in)					
	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>FY 2024-25</u>	<u>FY 2025-26</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>	<u>FY 2027-28</u>
State Impact					
General Fund Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Less Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-
General Fund Impact	No Fiscal Impact				
NET STATE IMPACT	No Fiscal Impact				

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

This bill requires licensure of genetic counselors operating in the State; requires all applicants for licensure to undergo criminal history checks; establishes a new Genetic Counselors Licensure Board (Board) to administer the licensing; and authorizes licensure fees.

This note assumes the newly established Board will operate in a manner similar to the majority of State licensing boards, whose budgets and spending occur outside the State treasury and budget. Thus, the collection of fees authorized in the bill and the administrative costs associated with the Board would not impact the State’s budget. The bill also includes a clause that states that in no event shall the State be liable for expenses incurred by the Board in excess of the fees authorized in the bill.

While the bill requires all applicants for licensure to undergo criminal history checks, the projected number of applicants and corresponding new checks would have an negligible fiscal impact on the State and would not require additional staff.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Licensure Fees

The bill establishes the Genetic Counselors Licensure Board (Board) and authorizes the following fees to offset the cost of administration:

License	Maximum Fee
Application Fee for Licensure	250.00
License Renewal	200.00
Late Renewal	50.00
Reciprocal License Application	250.00
Temporary License Application	100.00

Based on the number of certified genetic counselors reflected in the National Society of Genetic Counselors 2021 report, fee collections for FY 2023-24 would be approximately \$28,250. The bill authorizes a two-year license, thus revenues will be staggered depending on the initial application year.

Criminal History Checks

The bill requires all applicants for licensure to consent to and pay for the cost of criminal history record checks and directs the Board to collect and remit the fee to the State Department of Justice (DOJ) to cover the State’s costs associated with conducting the checks.

This fiscal note assumes the combination (state and federal) criminal history check applies. The current fee for the combined check is \$38. Using data provided by the National Society of Genetic Counselors, the estimated number of applicants for licensure is 113. Thus, we estimate a negligible impact on the SBI and would not require additional staff.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The bill requires the Board to furnish the State DOJ the fingerprints of each applicant. However, the SBI, housed administratively in the Department of Public Safety, is the central repository for criminal information for the State.

DATA SOURCES

2021 Professional Status Summary, NATIONAL SOCIETY OF GENETIC COUNSELORS

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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