



HOUSE BILL 1035: LGC/Training for Local Gov't Finance Officers.

2016-2017 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Finance	Date: June 23, 2016
Introduced by: Reps. McNeill, L. Johnson, Iler	Prepared by: Nicholas Giddings
Analysis of: Second Edition	Committee Co-Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 1035 would authorize the Local Government Commission to require certain local government and public authority finance officers, and other employees who perform the duties of a finance officer, to attend training as to the powers, duties and responsibilities of a finance officer, and charge a fee for the training.*

CURRENT LAW: The Local Government Commission (LGC) is located within the State Treasurer's Office, and provides assistance to local governments and public authorities in North Carolina. Generally, the LGC focuses on three components of operations of the local governments and public authorities:

1. Whether a local government or public authority is financially healthy enough to borrow money.
2. Selling debt on behalf of the local government or public authority.
3. Oversight of the annual audit/financial reporting required of local governments and public authorities.

Each local government and public authority is required to appoint a finance officer to hold office at the pleasure of the appointing board or official. That finance officer may be titled "accountant," "treasurer," "finance director," "finance officer," or any other reasonably descriptive title. The duties of the finance officer may be imposed on the budget officer, or any other officer or employee on whom the duties of budget officer may be imposed. G.S. 159-24.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would do all of the following:

- Authorize the LGC to require a finance officer, or other employee performing the duties of a finance officer, of a local government or public authority to attend training as to the powers, duties and responsibilities of a finance officer if either of the following apply to the local government or public authority:
 - The LGC has issued a unit letter due to a deficiency in that local government or public authority's compliance with Chapter 159 of the General Statutes, Local Government Finance.
 - The LGC is exercising its authority to assist defaulting units in refinancing and paying debts.
- Allow the LGC to collaborate with the School of Government, the North Carolina Community College System and other educational institutions in the State to develop and deliver the training.
- Authorize the LGC to charge and collect fees for expenses incurred in developing and delivering the training of finance officers.
- Make technical changes to the statute to remove gender references.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law.

Erika Churchill and Drupti Chauhan with the Legislative Analysis Division significantly contributed to this summary.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578