



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

2016-2017 General Assembly

Committee:	House Local Government	Date:	May 25, 2016
Introduced by:	Reps. McNeill, L. Johnson, Iler	Prepared by:	Erika Churchill
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H1035-CSSTf-103		Committee Co-Counsel

SUMMARY: *The proposed committee substitute for 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 PCS 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.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

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- Authorize the LGC to charge and collect fees for the training of finance officers. The fees would become part of the State Treasurer's budget and must be expended for costs incurred by the LGC in carrying out its statutory duties in the issuance of revenue bonds.
- Makes technical changes to the statute, to remove gender references.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law.