



2017-2018 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 99: Appropriations Act of 2018, Sec. 34.7: STI/Additional Requirement For High Cost Projects

Committee:		Date:	August 9, 2018
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Howard Marsilio Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Sec. 34.7 of S.L. 2018-5		

OVERVIEW: *Sec. 34.7 of S.L. 2018-5, as amended by Sec. 7.5 of S.L. 2018-97, amends Article 14B of Chapter 136, Strategic Prioritization Funding Plan for Transportation Investments (STI), by adding additional requirements for high-costs projects, including light rail projects.*

This section became effective June 12, 2018.

CURRENT LAW: Article 14B of Chapter 136 allocates available funds in the Highway Trust Fund for projects based on data-driven scoring, local input, and other factors. Projects are divided into three general categories: Division Need Projects, Regional Impact Projects, and Statewide Strategic Mobility Projects as defined within the Article.

Current law excludes funds, modifies criteria, and provides for bonus allocations depending on circumstances and project types as outlined by Article 14B.

Regional Impact Projects include projects for a public transportation service that spans two or more counties and that serves more than one municipality, and includes commuter rail, intercity rail, and light rail.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 34.7 of Session Law 2018-5, as amended by Section 7.5 of S.L. 2018-97, prohibits the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) from expending State funding for a light rail project until a written agreement is provided to NCDOT establishing that all non-State funding to construct the project has been committed. Additionally, it clarifies that commuter rail or light rail projects are subject to a total State funding cap which is the lesser of ten percent (10%) of the distribution region allocation or ten percent (10%) of the estimated total project cost used during the prioritization scoring process under STI law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective June 12, 2018.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director

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Legislative Analysis
Division
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