



SENATE BILL 155: Assess Costs of Local LEO Crime Lab Analysis.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	March 5, 2019
Introduced by:	Sens. J. Jackson, Bishop, Daniel	Prepared by:	Amy Darden
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 155 broadens the scope of local crime labs that can receive court ordered lab fees.*

CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS: In a criminal action where a defendant is convicted, a defendant enters a plea of guilty or no contest, or costs are assessed against a prosecuting witness, the Court can order certain costs to be assessed against and collected from the defendant. G.S.7A-304(a)(8) currently allows costs to be assessed for the services of crime laboratory facilities operated by a local government or a group of local governments in cases in which the laboratory has, as part of the investigation leading to a defendant's conviction:

- Performed DNA analysis of the crime;
- Tested bodily fluids of the defendant for the presence of alcohol of controlled substances; or
- Provided analysis of any controlled substance possessed by the defendant or their agent.

Senate Bill 155 would remove the "local government or group of local governments" limitation and allow "services of any crime laboratory facility" to be assessed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to the costs assessed on or after that date.

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Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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