

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 618                      D Macon County Airport Authority

**SHORT TITLE:** Macon County Airport Authority

**SPONSOR(S):** Senator Carpenter

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>				
<b>Yes ( )</b>	<b>No (x)</b>	<b>No Estimate Available ( )</b>		
<b><u>FY 1999-00</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2000-01</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2001-02</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2002-03</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2003-04</u></b>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
<b>General Fund</b>		<b>* See Assumptions and Methodology *</b>		
<b>PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &amp; PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:</b> Macon County Airport Authority, Macon County Government, and the Sales Tax Division of the Department of Revenue.				
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> When it becomes law.				

**BILL SUMMARY:** The legislation creates the Macon County Airport Authority and sets rules for its governance and operation. It also extends the sales and use tax refund provisions generally applied to county and city governments to the Macon County Airport Authority.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:** The only potential fiscal impact of the bill is the sales tax refund. Under G.S. 105-164.14(c), certain government entities are eligible for refund of the sales taxes they paid on purchases in the previous fiscal year. This refund is issued annually. The types of government organizations that are currently eligible for the refund include city and county governments, municipal sewer districts, water and sewer authorities, public health authorities, a council of government, schools, and regional public transportation authorities. The law also states that local airport authorities, created by the General Assembly, may be eligible for the refund if the authority meets at least one of the following criteria: it has all the rights of a municipality, a local act of the General Assembly declares it to be a municipality, or a local act of the General Assembly specifically authorizes it to receive the refund. In addition to creating the Authority, the bill specifically authorizes the Macon County Airport Authority to receive the sales tax refund.

According to the Macon County Planning Office, the Airport Authority intends to make significant capital improvements to the airport. These will be funded primarily through

Department of Transportation funds. However, because all airport related purchases are currently made through the county, and would continue to be handled by the county if the bill does not pass, there is no fiscal impact. Since the purchases are made through the county, and the county receives the sales tax refund, the bill only changes who applies for the refund. It does not affect the amount of the refund. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910**

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**DATE:** Monday, April 26, 1999



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