

(Prepare in triplicate)

FISCAL NOTE

Prepared in regard to:

House Bill No. 1022

(List bill or resolution and number, if available, or subject)

Amendment to: _____

(List bill or resolution and number)

Requested by: Legislative Council Date of receipt: 27 Dec. 1976

In the following space note the fiscal effect in dollars of the legislative proposal. If additional space is needed, attach a supplementary sheet. (Please type)

The fiscal effect of this bill is one of interpretation. The State Historical Society has performed those duties relating to the collection and preservation of State records outlined by House Bill No. 1022 for a number of years on the basis of need and because North Dakota has not had an official State Archives. Thus, the effect upon the agency budget by this legislation is negligible and the Society can continue to perform these duties at the existing level of effort, without additional funding, given the following understanding.

The existing level of funding for the work of archival collection and preservation has clearly been inadequate. The Society has a professional archivist on its staff but the pressure of other work prevents him from devoting more than a small amount of his time to these duties. He also functions as Director of the Society's Research and Reference division, which carries with it responsibility for the library, documents, newspaper and manuscript collections as well as the microfilm program. In addition, he has other research responsibilities. Therefore, if this position becomes the State Archivist as designated in House Bill No. 1022, the effectiveness of the position will continue to be less than desired.

The Society's budget request for the 1977-79 biennium included the full-time position of Director of the Research and Reference division which would free the Archivist to work full-time as an Archivist, an Assistant Archivist and two Research Assistants. Funding of these four positions, which would place the State Archives on a sound, functional basis, is not included in the Executive Budget as presented to the 1977 Legislature. For a functional program, these positions would need to be reinstated which would mean the addition of the sum of \$96,595.00. Space needs await the Heritage Center for a permanent solution.

If it appears this legislative proposal may have a fiscal effect upon one or more of the cities and counties of this state but your agency does not have the information available, or cannot gather the information on a timely basis, to allow a dollar estimate, please check one or more of the following:

_____ The measure does have a fiscal impact in an unknown amount

_____ The measure does have a fiscal impact in a dollar amount estimated on the basis of inadequate information. (Enter dollar estimate in space above).

_____ The fiscal impact of the measure is unknown.

Date of preparation: 30 December 1976

Signed

James E. Sperry

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Department State Historical Society