



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: H. 4386 Introduced on January 9, 2018
Author: Gilliard
Subject: Metal Detectors in Public Schools Act
Requestor: House Education and Public Works
RFA Analyst(s): Powell
Impact Date: February 7, 2018

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$1,210,826	\$1,097,426
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	33.50	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditure	See Below	See Below
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will increase the General Fund expenditures by \$1,210,826 in FY 2018-19. This is comprised of \$113,400 in non-recurring costs to purchase metal detectors at the special schools and \$1,097,426 in recurring costs associated with the 33.50 FTEs required to staff the metal detector stations. In FY 2019-20, only the recurring component of \$1,097,426 will remain. This bill is also expected to increase local expenditures by school district. The non-recurring cost to install three walk-through metal detectors at each of 1,200 schools is \$14,400,000. However, more may be required due to unique configurations at individual schools. If the metal detectors can be staffed with existing personnel, there will be no recurring impact. If the metal detectors require dedicated staffing, using assumptions similar to those used for state agencies, the recurring cost to school districts could be \$98,277,000 or more, if additional detectors are needed. For this reason, the local expenditure impact is undetermined.

There is no impact to Other Funds or Federal Funds expenditures. There is no impact to General Funds, Other Funds, Federal Funds, or local revenues.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 9, 2018

State Expenditure

This bill requires the installation and operation of walk-through metal detectors at all public entrances of each public elementary school, middle school, and high school in the state. Public entrances are defined as the main entrance to each public school building, gymnasium, and

football stadium. They do not include service entrances, secondary doors, and school bus loading zone entrances.

The Department of Education (Department) is directed to provide training in the use of walk-through metal detectors to school officials who will use the equipment, including training in how to respond when contraband is detected. The Department is directed to coordinate with the Office of the Attorney General and the State Law Enforcement Division when developing the training.

For the purpose of standardization, we have assumed an installed cost of \$4,000 for each walk-through metal detector, and that each metal detector at schools staffed by state employees would be operated by a Security Specialist I. According to the Division of State Human Resources, the salary range for a Security Specialist I is \$15,080 to \$27,710. When the cost of benefits and fringe are added, and assuming the employee is hired at the bottom of the band for the position, the total cost per Security Specialist I would be \$32,759. As this position must be continuously staffed, we have assumed that one additional FTE would be needed at each institution to provide coverage for breaks and absences. For metal detectors that would be operated only during events we have assumed 0.25 FTEs would be needed to operate the detector.

Department of Education. The Department is directed to provide training to school officials on the use of metal detectors and how to respond when contraband has detected. The Department has indicated that it does not anticipate a fiscal impact as a result of this bill as it plans to utilize the expertise of the State Law Enforcement Division and the Office of the Attorney General to assist with developing the training. However, it does anticipate a local impact to school districts, which is discussed below.

Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School. The agency indicates it has eight entrances which would be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. The total non-recurring General Fund cost for eight metal detectors at \$4,000 per detector would be \$32,000. These eight metal detectors will require nine FTEs at a cost of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund cost of \$294,831.

John De La Howe. The agency indicates it has eight entrances which would be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. The total non-recurring General Fund cost for eight metal detectors at \$4,000 per detector would be \$32,000. These eight metal detectors will require nine FTEs at a cost of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund cost of \$294,831.

School for the Deaf and Blind. The agency indicates it has nine entrances which would be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. The total non-recurring General Fund cost for nine metal detectors at \$4,000 per detector would be \$36,000. One unit will be located at the football stadium and will not require continuous monitoring. The eight metal detectors that require continuous monitoring would require nine FTEs and the one metal detector that requires event monitoring would require 0.25 FTEs at a cost of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund cost of \$303,021.

Governor's School for Arts and Humanities. The agency indicates that it will require two multi zone metal detectors at a cost of \$5,000 each and two hand held metal detectors at a cost of \$200 each to meet the requirements of the bill and conform to space limitations, for a total non-recurring cost of \$5,400. These two metal detectors and two hand held metal detectors will require 3.25 FTEs, at a total recurring General Fund cost of \$106,467.

Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. The agency indicates it has two entrances which would be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. The total non-recurring General Fund cost for two metal detectors at \$4,000 per detector would be \$8,000. These two metal detectors will require 3.00 FTEs, at a total recurring General Fund cost of \$98,277.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

The Department indicates there will be a local impact to school districts to implement the proposed legislation. The Department assumed that there will be one metal detector station at the visitor's entrance to each school and three metal detector stations needed for gymnasiums or stadiums. At \$4,000 per detector, the non-recurring cost to put three detectors per school in each of the state's 1,200 schools will be \$14,400,000. This is a minimum amount, as some schools may require more detectors due to their unique configurations. The Department's estimate assumes that school districts will utilize existing employees and existing resources to man the detectors, with the assistance of school resource officers or local law enforcement. However, the Department notes that if a district determines additional resources are needed to effectively manage the flow of traffic through the detectors, the impact could increase substantially. Utilizing the same methodology employed for state agencies above, 2.5 FTEs will be required to staff one continuous use and two part time use detectors. At a cost of \$32,579 per FTE, this scenario would have a recurring cost to school districts of \$98,277,000.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director