



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: S. 0087 Introduced on January 10, 2017
Author: Verdin
Subject: Law Enforcement Protection
Requestor: Senate Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Gardner
Impact Date: March 2, 2017

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
State Expenditure		
General Fund	Undetermined	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditure	\$0	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

The expenditure impact of this bill, which establishes that an offense committed against a law enforcement officer constitutes a felony, is undetermined due to the lack of empirical data on the number of such offenses.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2017

State Expenditure

This bill relates to offenses against the person and provides that a person who commits an offense against a law enforcement officer is guilty of a felony. Persons convicted of such offenses must be fined not less than two thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, or imprisoned not less than two years nor more than fifteen years, or both. Neither the two thousand dollars of any fine nor two years of any sentence imposed for these offenses may be suspended.

Judicial Department. This bill may move the jurisdiction of a case from the summary court to the general sessions court. As there is no data available to quantify the number of offenses committed against law enforcement officers, the expenditure impact of the bill cannot be determined. While the bill may result in result in additional hearings and trials held in general sessions court and an increased backlog for both the common pleas and general sessions courts, the department expects to manage any expenditure impact to the General Fund within current resources.

Commission on Prosecution Coordination. The department reports that this bill may result in additional court time that would be needed to dispose of such cases. However, as there is no data available to quantify the number of offenses committed against law enforcement officers, the expenditure impact of the bill on the General Fund cannot be determined.

Commission on Indigent Defense. The agency reports there is no data available to quantify the number of offenses committed against law enforcement officers. However, the agency indicates that any expenses from the bill can be managed with existing appropriations.

Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. The department expects to manage any expenditure impact to the General Fund within current resources.

Department of Corrections. The department reports that a person convicted of a felony offense against a law enforcement officer must receive a sentence of at least two years. As such, the agency expects that the bill will increase an inmate's length of stay and increase the prison population. This bill will likely increase expenditures from the General Fund. However, the extent cannot be determined because there is no data available to quantify the number of offenses committed against law enforcement officers.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director