



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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*This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.*

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**Bill Number:** H. 4097    Introduced on March 18, 2021  
**Author:** Allison  
**Subject:** Relocation of Billboards; Compensation  
**Requestor:** House Education and Public Works  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Griffith  
**Impact Date:** April 1, 2021

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill provides greater options for owners of outdoor advertising signs whose property interests are acquired by state or local highway projects or whose signs' visibility is obscured by such projects to alter or relocate their signs. Currently, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for compensating an owner if a sign is unable to be relocated. This legislation may minimally reduce Other Fund expenditures of the DOT because it transfers the responsibility of compensation under a local highway project to the political subdivision responsible for the project. The bill also may reduce Other Funds revenue of DOT and county revenue by a minimal amount due to a decrease in permits for outdoor advertising signs that are relocated and in zoning permits.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on March 18, 2021**

##### **State Expenditure**

This bill allows the owner of an outdoor advertising sign whose property interests are acquired by a state or local highway project the option of relocating the sign to a position within 500 feet of the original sign site or alter the sign so that no portion of the sign overhangs the right of way. Additionally, the owner of an outdoor advertising sign, in which its visibility from the main-traveled way has been obscured by a state or local highway project, has the option to alter the height or angle of the sign, or relocate the sign within 500 feet of the original site if the alteration is not practical or more expensive. Currently, DOT is responsible for compensating the owner if the sign is unable to be relocated. This bill transfers the responsibility for compensation under a local highway project to the political subdivision responsible for the local highway project. This may result in a minimal reduction in expenditures of the State Highway Fund, which are Other Funds of DOT.

##### **State Revenue**

This bill removes the requirement that a new local zoning or state permit is required for the relocation of an outdoor advertising sign, provided that the relocated site meets federal and state laws and that the relocated site is within the same county as the original site. This may reduce Other Funds revenue of DOT, but the reduction is expected to be minimal.

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) contacted twenty-three county governments regarding the revenue impact of this bill. Only Lancaster County responded, and they estimate a minimal revenue loss due to less zoning permits being issued. Therefore, RFA expects little to no impact on local revenue.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director