

## SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT (803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

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.

| <b>Bill Number:</b> | H. 4274 Introduced on April 5, 2023             |
|---------------------|---|
| Author:             | W. Newton                                       |
| Subject:            | South Carolina Public Expression Protection Act |
| Requestor:          | House Judiciary                                 |
| RFA Analyst(s):     | Gardner and Tipton                              |
| Impact Date:        | March 5, 2024                                   |

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill details specific court actions that must be followed during the proceeding of a civil case brought against a person who is exercising his right to free speech or other similar activity in certain situations.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for Judicial or the State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA). Judicial reports this bill requires it to perform activities within the normal course of duties. Additionally, SFAA anticipates this bill will not operationally or fiscally impact the Insurance Reserve Fund (IRF) or the agency as the bill specifies that it does not apply to actions asserted against a governmental unit or its employees. If we receive information to the contrary, we will update this fiscal impact statement.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## Introduced on April 5, 2023 State Expenditure

This bill details specific court actions that must be followed during the proceeding of a civil case brought against a person who is exercising his right to free speech or other similar activity in certain situations.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for Judicial or SFAA. Judicial reports this bill requires it to perform activities within the normal course of duties. Additionally, SFAA anticipates this bill will not operationally or fiscally impact the IRF or the agency as the bill specifies that it does not apply to actions asserted against a governmental unit or its employees. If we receive information to the contrary, we will update this fiscal impact statement.

State Revenue N/A

Local Expenditure and Local Revenue N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director