

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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S. 0143 Introduced on January 10, 2023 **Bill Number:**

Author: Shealy

Subject: Household Member & Dating Relationship

Senate Judiciary Requestor:

RFA Analyst(s): **Boggs**

Impact Date: February 15, 2023

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill changes the definition for a household member to include persons who are currently or have been in a dating relationship, which expands the classes of persons who may petition for an order of protection pursuant to §20-4-40. This bill also modifies who may petition for an order of protection on behalf of a household minor.

Judicial anticipates enactment of the bill will increase caseloads in family and magistrate courts by an unknown amount but believes resultant costs can be managed using existing General Fund resources.

Additionally, the increase in caseloads in family and magistrate courts may result in an increase in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined impact to General Fund revenue, Other Funds revenue, and local revenue due to the increase in fines and fees collections in court.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2023 State Expenditure

This bill changes the definition for a household member to include persons who are currently or have been in a dating relationship, which expands the classes of persons who may petition for an order of protection. Currently, a person who is, or was, in a dating relationship is not considered a household member for purposes of filing an order or protection in family court in cases of abuse of a household member pursuant to §20-4-40.

This bill also specifies that a parent, guardian, custodian, legal counsel, or other appropriate adult may petition the court for an order of protection on behalf of a household minor. Currently, any household member may petition the court for this order of protection for a minor.

Judicial anticipates this bill will increase caseloads in family and magistrate courts by an unknown amount but believes resultant costs can be managed using existing General Fund resources.

State Revenue

This bill may increase the caseloads in family and magistrate courts. This may result in an increase in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined impact to General Fund revenue and Other Funds revenue due to the increase in fines and fees collections in court.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

This bill may increase the caseloads in family and magistrate courts. This may result in an increase in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined impact to local revenue due to the increase in fines and fees collections in court.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director