



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.

Bill Number:	S. 0915	Amended by House Judiciary on April 23, 2024
Author:	Peeler	
Subject:	Executive Office of Health Policy	
Requestor:	House Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Boggs and Bryant	
Impact Date:	April 24, 2024	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This amended bill creates the Executive Office of Health and Policy (EOHP), which restructures the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS), the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Public Health (DPH) of the former Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), and the Department on Aging into the newly created departments under the EOHP. All existing FTEs and funds of the agencies are transferred to the new applicable department. The Department of Administration (Admin) is to assist in the transition.

Further, this amended bill requires Department of Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services (DBHSAS) to perform all duties of the commissioner of the narcotics and controlled substances section of the State Planning and Grants Division previously transferred to DAODAS, except those powers and duties related to the traffic of narcotics and controlled substances, which shall be vested in the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED). Additionally, this bill, as amended, requires DBHSAS to establish a program to provide alcohol and drug abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment services for public schools, and specifies that funds for the program must be appropriated by the General Assembly from the Education Improvement Act (EIA) Fund as it determines appropriate.

Additionally, the bill makes conforming changes throughout the code to reflect the newly formed departments. The bill also makes changes to the South Carolina Intellectual and Related Disabilities Act to specifically include autism and provide for the Department of Intellectual and Related Disabilities to enter into service contracts related to the Act.

This bill clarifies that sheriffs and constables can only be mobilized to assist with public health emergencies at direction of the Governor. Additionally, this bill clarifies that DPH, with approval from the Governor, may enforce preventive measures to suppress or prevent the spread of communicable or epidemic diseases.

Lastly, the bill eliminates the Coordinating Council to the Department of Aging (Aging) and makes changes to the Long-Term Care Council. The bill also makes changes to the topics on

which the Department of Environmental Services (DES) may issue regulations listed in Section 48-6-60(A).

DMH anticipates this bill will result in an undetermined expenditure impact in FY 2024-25 as it would likely affect the overall SCEIS master data structure, organizational workflows, systematic program workflows, such as procurement authority and budget authorization, and additional changes needed for contractual agreements held by DMH. DMH also anticipates a potential increase in expenditures due to this bill, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring.

DHHS anticipates this bill may result in an expenditure savings for the agency beginning in FY 2024-25, dependent upon consolidation of overlapping administrative costs. The agency also would be required to update twenty-five Medicaid provider manuals and complete other ancillary administrative tasks as result of this bill. DHHS anticipates being able to manage these costs within existing staff and appropriations.

DDSN anticipates a one-time expense of less than \$10,000 in FY 2024-25 related to changing the department name and logo. Additionally, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring, DDSN anticipates this bill may have an additional undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25.

Aging anticipates an undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25. This impact will depend on, among other things, whether the software that the agency is currently implementing, OASIS, will need to be updated, modified, or replaced due to this bill. This software provides multiple functions including tracking grant commitments to AAA, contact information for citizens served by the agency, the Regional AAA, and their providers. This data will include items of information and referrals as well as what services have been authorized for the citizen or referrals to other groups who can provide the needed services. Alternatives that allow Aging to still use the software and stay compliant with the federal reporting requirements for the Older Americans Act range from an unknown amount up to \$123,695 with additional licensing costs. Aging anticipates that there could also be additional costs for office relocation, video recreation, literature reprint, IT upgrades, and data integration. Therefore, the expenditure impact for this bill on Aging is undetermined.

Admin and the Governor's Office anticipate that any costs associated with this bill can be managed with existing staff and appropriations.

DHEC anticipates that this bill will have no fiscal impact on DPH or DES as any potential costs can be absorbed by existing resources or have been addresses with previous agency restructuring.

DAODAS anticipates that this bill will have no fiscal impact as it does not impact agency structure.

This bill will result in a transfer of an undetermined amount of revenue from Other Funds to DBHSAS, depending upon the amount appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Amended by House Judiciary on April 23, 2024

State Expenditure

This amended bill creates the EOHP, which restructures the following agencies into new departments: DAODAS, DDSN, DHHS, DPH, DMH, and Aging. The bill moves all existing FTEs and appropriated funds to the appropriate department within the EOHP. Admin will assist with the transfer of operating expenses and any other such transfers as specified in this bill. The bill also makes conforming changes throughout the code to reflect the newly formed departments.

Further, this amended bill requires DBHSAS to perform all duties of the commissioner of the narcotics and controlled substances section of the State Planning and Grants Division previously transferred to DAODAS, except those powers and duties related to the traffic of narcotics and controlled substances, which shall be vested in the SLED. Additionally, this bill as amended requires DBHSAS to establish a program to provide alcohol and drug abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment services for public schools, and specifies that funds for the program must be appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund as it determines appropriate.

The bill makes changes to the South Carolina Intellectual and Related Disabilities Act to specifically include autism and provide for the department to enter into service contracts related to the Act.

This bill clarifies that sheriffs and constables can only be mobilized to assist with public health emergencies at direction of the Governor. Additionally, this bill clarifies that DPH, with approval from the Governor, may enforce preventive measures to suppress or prevent the spread of communicable or epidemic diseases.

Lastly, the bill eliminates the Coordinating Council to the Department of Aging (Aging) and makes changes to the Long-Term Care Council. The bill also makes changes to the topics on which the Department of Environmental Services (DES) may issue regulations listed in Section 48-6-60(A).

Department of Mental Health. DMH anticipates this this bill will result in an undetermined expenditure impact in FY 2024-25 as this bill would likely affect the overall SCEIS master data structure, organizational workflows, systematic program workflows, such as procurement authority and budget authorization, and additional changes needed for contractual agreements held by DMH. DMH also anticipates a potential increase in expenditures due to this bill, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring.

S.C. Department of Education. This bill, as amended, requires the director of DBHSAS to establish a program to provide alcohol and drug abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment services for public schools, and specifies that funds for the program must be appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund as it determines appropriate. Based on previous responses, the expenditure impact of this provision of the bill on the SCDE is undetermined and will depend upon the amount appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund and which agencies and programs currently receiving EIA funds will be affected by this transfer.

Department of Administration. Admin anticipates that any costs associated with this bill can be managed with existing staff and appropriations.

Governor's Office. The Governor's Office anticipates that any costs associated with this bill can be managed with existing staff and appropriations.

Department of Health and Human Services. DHHS anticipates this bill may result in an expenditure savings for the agency beginning in FY 2024-25, dependent upon consolidation of overlapping administrative costs. The agency also would be required to update twenty-five Medicaid provider manuals and complete other ancillary administrative tasks as result of this bill. DHHS anticipates being able to manage these costs within existing staff and appropriations.

Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. DDSN anticipates a one-time expense of less than \$10,000 in FY 2024-25 related to changing the department name and logo. Additionally, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring, DDSN anticipates this bill may have an additional undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25.

Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services. DAODAS anticipates that this bill will have no fiscal impact as it does not impact agency structure.

Department on Aging. Aging anticipates an undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25. This impact will depend on, among other things, whether the software that the agency is currently implementing, OASIS, will need to be updated, modified, or replaced due to this bill. This software provides multiple functions including tracking grant commitments to AAA, contact information for citizens served by the agency, the Regional AAA, and their providers. This data will include items of information and referrals as well as what services have been authorized for the citizen or referrals to other groups who can provide the needed services. Alternatives that allow Aging to still use the software and stay compliant with the federal reporting requirements for the Older Americans Act range from an unknown amount up to \$123,695 with additional licensing costs. Aging anticipates that there could also be additional costs for office relocation, video recreation, literature reprint, IT upgrades, and data integration. Therefore, the expenditure impact for this bill on Aging is undetermined.

Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Services. DHEC anticipates that this bill will have no fiscal impact on DPH or DES as any potential costs can be absorbed by existing resources or have been addresses with previous agency restructuring.

State Revenue

This bill, as amended, requires the director of DBHSAS to establish a program to provide alcohol and drug abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment services for public schools, and specifies that funds for the program must be annually appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund as it determines appropriate. This provision of the bill will result in a transfer of an undetermined amount of revenue from Other Funds to DBHSAS, depending upon the amount appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Amended by the Senate on February 20, 2024

State Expenditure

This amended bill creates the EOHP. Additionally, this bill, as amended, requires the director of DBH to establish a program to provide alcohol and drug abuse intervention, prevention, and treatment services for public schools, and specifies that funds for the program must be appropriated by the General Assembly from the EIA Fund as it determines appropriate. Further, the bill removes the requirement that DOR, in consultation with the State Treasurer, determine whether the amount of revenue that state agencies and local entities receive from the excise tax on the gross proceeds of the sales of alcoholic liquor by the drink exceeds the amount they received from mini bottle tax revenues in FY 2004-05.

This bill, as amended, specifies that 11 percent of the revenue generated by the excise tax on the gross proceeds of the sales of alcoholic liquor by the drink will be allocated to DHF to reimburse the department for services related to the rehabilitation of alcoholics and drug addicts. The bill also removes language requiring local governments to receive the same amount of revenue from the alcoholic liquor by the drink excise tax that they received from mini bottle tax revenues in FY 2004-05.

Department of Revenue. This bill will have no expenditure impact on DOR. The bill removes the requirement that DOR, in consultation with the State Treasurer, determine whether the amount of revenue that state agencies and local entities receive from the excise tax on the gross proceeds of the sales of alcoholic liquor by the drink exceeds the amount they received from mini bottle tax revenues in FY 2004-05. The bill also changes the distribution of the revenue generated by the excise tax on the gross proceeds of the sales of alcoholic liquor by the drink from counties to DHF, which can be managed by the agency.

Department of Veterans' Affairs. This bill adds DVA to the list of agencies that can be reported under the Omnibus Adult Protection Act to keep abuse, neglect, and exploitation cases in veteran's homes under the jurisdiction of SLED. This is current practice and clarifies existing legislation. Therefore, DVA states that this bill will have no fiscal impact on the agency.

Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. DDSN anticipates a one-time expense of less than \$10,000 in FY 2024-25 related to changing the department name and logo. Additionally, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring, DDSN anticipates this bill may have an additional undetermined expenditure impact.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. Beginning July 1, 2024, DHEC is abolished and DPH and DES are established. This bill relocates DPH under the new EOHP. DHEC anticipates that this bill will have no fiscal impact on the agency.

Administrative Law Courts. This bill also modifies the appeal process for a number of decisions made by DPH and DES. Currently, the appeal process is either through circuit court or an internal appeal process. This bill sets the appeal process through the ALC. We anticipate any additional responsibilities due to this bill for the ALC can be managed with existing staff and within existing appropriations.

Department of Mental Health. DMH anticipates that this bill would likely affect the overall SCEIS master data structure, organizational workflows, systematic program workflows, such as procurement authority and budget authorization, and additional changes needed for contractual agreements held by DMH. DMH anticipates this bill may increase expenses, dependent upon the department responsibilities under the new structure. Therefore, this bill will have an undetermined expenditure impact for DMH beginning in FY 2024-25.

Department of Health and Human Services. DHHS will be required to update twenty-five Medicaid provider manuals and complete other ancillary administrative tasks as result of this bill. Any impact on SCEIS master data is unknown. However, the agency anticipates being able to manage this non-recurring cost within existing appropriations. Additionally, DHHS anticipates it could realize a decrease in administrative cost depending on the consolidation of overlapping administrative functions beginning in FY 2024-25. Therefore, this bill may result in an undetermined expenditure savings for DHHS beginning in FY 2024-25.

Further, this amended bill states that DHHS must monitor and undertake evaluations at least twice a year of third-party transportation-related contracts. The fiscal impact on DHHS for this portion of the bill is pending, contingent a response from the agency.

Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services. DAODAS anticipates this bill may have an additional undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25.

Department of Administration. Admin will assist with the transfer of operating expenses and any other such transfers as specified in this bill. The agency anticipates that any requirements of this bill can be handled within existing staff and appropriations.

Governor's Office. The Governor's Office anticipates being able to handle any requirements of this bill within existing staff and appropriations.

Department of Aging. Aging anticipates an undetermined expenditure impact beginning in FY 2024-25. This impact will depend on, among other things, whether the software that the agency is currently implementing, OASIS, will need to be updated, modified, or replaced due to this bill. This software provides multiple functions including tracking grant commitments to AAA, contact information for citizens served by the agency, the Regional AAA, and their providers. This data will include items of information and referrals as well as what services have been authorized for the citizen or referrals to other groups who can provide the needed services. Alternatives that allow Aging to still use the software and stay compliant with the federal reporting requirements for the Older Americans Act range from an unknown amount up to \$123,695 with additional licensing costs. Aging anticipates that there could also be additional costs for office relocation, video recreation, and literature reprint. Therefore, the expenditure impact for this bill on Aging is undetermined.

State Revenue

This bill will result in a transfer of undetermined amount of revenue from current mental health agencies to the newly created EOHP in FY 2024-25.

Currently, Aging also generates \$35,000 through the bed locator contract with DHHS. Aging is unsure, based on this bill, whether it will continue to receive this income. It is also unclear as to whether Aging will continue to receive funding from the Administration for Community Living and No Wrong Door programs. These funds are allocated to the ten regional AAAs that provide services through their ADRC programs. Therefore, the bill may result in an undetermined impact on Other Funds of Aging.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

This bill, as amended, specifies that 11 percent of the revenue generated by the excise tax on the gross proceeds of the sales of alcoholic liquor by the drink will be allocated to DHF to reimburse the department for services related to the rehabilitation of alcoholics and drug addicts. Currently, this revenue is allocated to the counties on a per capita basis for educational purposes relating to the use of alcoholic liquors and the rehabilitation of alcoholics and drug addicts. The bill also removes language requiring local governments to receive the same amount of revenue from the alcoholic liquor by the drink excise tax that they received from mini bottle tax revenues in FY 2004-05. This provision of the bill will reduce local government revenue by approximately \$5,926,000 beginning in FY 2024-25 for the revenue generated by the alcoholic liquor by the drink excise tax that will be re-allocated to DHP.

Currently, in order for the local AAAs to provide the matching dollars required for their federal grants, Aging allows them to use their state dollars to match the Older American's Act funds they receive. The funding provided by Aging is approximately \$3 million per year. If funding for Aging is reduced, there could be a reduction in local AAAs federal grants.

Introduced on January 9, 2024

State Expenditure

This bill restructures the current mental health state agencies by creating the EOHP in FY 2024-25. This office will consist of DHF, DPH, Aging, DIRD, and DBHSAS. This bill also dissolves DAODAS, DDSN, DHHS, and DMH and moves all existing FTEs and appropriated funds to the appropriate department within the EOHP. All applicable bonded indebtedness, real and personal property, assets, liabilities, contracts, regulations, or policies of DHHS, DPH, Aging, DDSN, DMH, or DAODAS will continue in effect in the name of the EOHP or the appropriate component division. Employees of DHHS, DPH, Aging, DDSN, DMH, or DAODAS shall maintain their same status with the appropriate component department of the EOHP. Admin will assist with the transfer of operating expenses and any other such transferred as specified in this bill.

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, must appoint the Secretary of Health and Policy to act as the head and governing authority of the office. Further, this bill lists the duties of the secretary to include developing a cohesive, coordinated, and comprehensive State Health Plan for public health services provided by the component departments housed within the office so that there is a maximum level of coordination among the component departments. The secretary shall also establish and appoint members to a health planning advisory committee to provide advice in the development of the plan. Members of the advisory committee should include health care providers, consumers, payers, and public health professionals. Members of the advisory committee are allowed the usual mileage and subsistence as provided for members of boards, committees, and commissions.

The component departments shall be headed by a department director appointed by the secretary with the advice and consent of the Senate. The secretary shall develop the budget for the office with each component department constituting a separate program area. Except as outlined in this bill, DHF, DPH, Aging, and DIRD shall operate as component departments of EHOP in FY 2024-25 using the authority and funds appropriated to DHHS, DPH, Aging, and DDSN as standalone agencies in the appropriations act of 2024. Also, DBHSAS shall operate as a component department of the EOHP in the FY 2024-25 using the authority and funds appropriated to DMH and DAODAS as standalone agencies in the appropriations act of 2024. Further, all applicable bonded indebtedness, real and personal property, assets, liabilities, contracts, regulations, or policies of the merging agencies shall continue in effect in the name of the EOHP or the appropriate component division.

This bill also repeals Chapter 9, Title 44. Further, this bill directs the Code Commissioner to change the headings in Article 1, Chapter 6, Title 44; Chapter 1, Title 44; Chapter 20, Title 44; and Chapter 9, Title 44 in S.C. Code to reflect the new departments.

Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. DDSN anticipates a one-time expense of less than \$10,000 in FY 2024-25 related to changing the department name and logo. Additionally, dependent upon any additional responsibilities that may arise due to the restructuring, DDSN anticipates this bill may have an additional undetermined expenditure impact.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. Beginning July 1, 2024, DHEC is abolished and DPH and DES are established. This bill relocates DPH under the new EOHP. DHEC anticipates this bill will have no fiscal impact of the agency.

Department of Mental Health. DMH anticipates that this bill would likely affect the overall SCEIS master data structure, organizational workflows, systematic program workflows, such as procurement authority and budget authorization, and additional changes needed for contractual agreements held by DMH. DMH anticipates this bill may increase expenses, dependent upon the department responsibilities under the new structure. Therefore, this bill will have an undetermined expenditure impact for DMH beginning in FY 2024-25. Admin, DAODAS, DHHS, Aging, and the Governor’s Office are continuing to analyze the impact of this bill. This fiscal impact is pending, contingent upon a response from these agencies.

State Revenue

This bill will result in a transfer of undetermined amount of revenue from current mental health agencies to the newly created EOHP in FY 2024-25.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director