

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. 1188 Introduced on March 20, 2024
Author:	Tedder
Subject:	Notification Requirements for Expulsion Hearings
Requestor:	Senate Education
RFA Analyst(s):	Bryant
Impact Date:	April 4, 2024

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill specifies that if procedures for expulsion are initiated, the written notification to the parents or legal guardian of the pupil must include their right to have legal counsel present at the hearing and all other regular legal rights, including the right to question all witnesses, contact information for legal aid services, and the right to access the investigative file in its entirety prior to the hearing.

The S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) indicates that this bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the department. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that they can manage the provisions of the bill using existing appropriations.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts will vary. SCDE surveyed the seventy-three regular school districts and three charter school districts and received responses from twenty-four districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. One district anticipates the need to hire additional staff but reports that the cost is currently undetermined and will depend upon whether the district will be required to perform any new duties in addition to providing a written notice to parents or legal guardians. The four remaining districts indicate that implementing the provisions of the bill will increase expenses by an amount ranging from \$750 to \$50,000 beginning in FY 2024-25 to hire legal counsel for hearings, and to develop and print materials for parents and guardians.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 20, 2024 State Expenditure

This bill specifies that if procedures for expulsion are initiated, the written notification to the parents or legal guardian of the pupil must include their right to have legal counsel present at the hearing and all other regular legal rights, including the right to question all witnesses, contact

information for legal aid services, and the right to access the investigative file in its entirety prior to the hearing.

S.C. Department of Education. SCDE indicates that this bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the department. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE.

State Agency Schools. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that they can manage the provisions of the bill using existing appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill specifies that if procedures for expulsion are initiated, the written notification to the parents or legal guardian of the pupil must include their right to have legal counsel present at the hearing and all other regular legal rights, including the right to question all witnesses, contact information for legal aid services, and the right to access the investigative file in its entirety prior to the hearing.

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Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director