



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.

Bill Number:	S. 0832	Introduced on January 20, 2026
Subject:	University Campus Events Zoning	
Requestor:	Senate Family and Veterans Services	
RFA Analyst(s):	Tipton	
Impact Date:	February 4, 2026	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill states that no county or municipality may prohibit, restrict, condition, delay, or require a land use approval for an event held on the campus of a state-supported institution of higher learning based on any zoning ordinance or other land use rules or regulations within the locality, provided that the event is approved by the governing board of the institution.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on state institutions of higher learning, as the University of South Carolina (USC), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Coastal Carolina University (CCU), the College of Charleston (CofC), Lander University (Lander), as well as the Technical College System (Tech System) all indicate that the bill will be implemented under normal operations.

This bill may have a revenue impact for Winthrop University (Winthrop), as the institution indicates that the Board of Trustees would be unable to provide express approval for every event held on campus based on the current board meeting schedule. This could impact a portion of the \$750,000 non-athletic revenue for the university. However, the actual revenue impact will depend on the extent to which express approval is required by the Winthrop Board of Trustees to allow an event to occur despite county or municipal ordinances or land use rules or regulations and, therefore, is undetermined.

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) contacted all counties in South Carolina the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) to determine the local fiscal impact of this bill and received responses from the counties of Dorchester and Lancaster and MASC. Dorchester and Lancaster Counties, as well as MASC indicate that while the bill may impact zoning enforcement operations, it is not expected to have a local fiscal impact.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 20, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill states that no county or municipality may prohibit, restrict, condition, delay, or require a land use approval for an event held on the campus of a state-supported institution of higher learning based on any zoning ordinance, zoning district, overlay district, land use classification, or other land use regulation, provided that the event is approved by the governing board of the

institution. The bill further states that nothing may limit a county or municipality's authority to apply and enforce generally applicable building, fire, life safety, health, and traffic laws and regulations.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on state institutions of higher learning, based on responses from USC, MUSC, CCU, CofC, Lander, and the Tech System. These entities indicate the bill will be implemented under normal operations for state institutions of higher learning.

State Revenue

Winthrop indicates that this bill may have a revenue impact, depending on the extent to which the bill requires the Board of Trustees to approve all events on campus. According to Winthrop, the board meets four times per year and would be unable to provide express approval for each individual event held on campus throughout the year. This could impact a portion of the \$750,000 non-athletic revenue for the university. However, the actual revenue impact will depend on the extent to which express approval is required by the Winthrop Board of Trustees to allow an event to occur despite county or municipal ordinances or land use rules or regulations and, therefore, is undetermined.

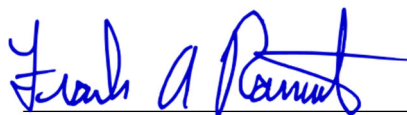
Local Expenditure

This bill may impact a county or municipality's ability to enforce a zoning ordinance, zoning district, overlay district, land use classification, or other land use regulations as it relates to events held on the campus of a state-supported institution of higher learning.

RFA contacted all counties in South Carolina and MASC to determine the local fiscal impact of this bill and received responses from the counties of Dorchester and Lancaster and MASC. Based on responses from Dorchester and Lancaster Counties, as well as MASC, this bill will have no local fiscal impact.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director