



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
 (803)734-0640 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

**Bill Number:** H. 4330  
**Author:** Hill  
**Subject:** Parental Right to Refuse Assessments Act  
**Requestor:** House Education and Public Works  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Fulmer  
**Impact Date:** January 22, 2016

**Estimate of Fiscal Impact**

	<b>FY 2016-17</b>	<b>FY 2017-18</b>
<b>State Expenditure</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
<b>State Revenue</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	(\$214,000,000)	\$0
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill could reduce federal funding to the State Department of Education and the local school districts by \$214,000,000.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**State Expenditure**

N/A

**State Revenue**

This bill would enact the Parental Right to Refuse Assessments Act to allow a parent the right to excuse the student from participating in standardized assessments without penalty to the parents, students, or local school districts. School districts along with the State Department of Education would adopt and implement a written policy and procedure. School districts would provide paper and electronic copies of the policy as well as posting it on the website.

The State Department of Education indicates that allowing students to opt out of assessments would cause the department to not be in compliance with the United States Department of Education (USDE) Title I, Part A. If USDE exercises their right to withhold funds, it could decrease of Title I, Part A federal funds to the department by \$1,628,596 and \$212,842,978 to the districts in FY2016-17. Title I, Part A funds are designed to meet the educational needs of low-achieving children in schools with the highest levels of poverty by aligning high-quality assessments, systems of accountability, teacher preparation, curriculum, and instructional materials with state academic standards.

The department and local school districts could find themselves out of compliance with additional Federal programs that rely on assessment results which could result in withholding additional programmatic funds. These additional programs include, but are not limited to, School Improvement Grants program, ESEA Title III, Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, programs for rural schools under ESEA Title VI, migrant education under ESEA Title I, Part C, and programs focused on professional development and other supports for teachers, such as ESEA Title II.

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



---

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director