

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

**Bill Number:** H. 4521 Author: Putnam

Subject: Tucker Hipps Transparency Act
Requestor: House Education and Public Works

RFA Analyst(s): Walling

Impact Date: February 22, 2016

**Estimate of Fiscal Impact** 

|                                  | FY 2016-17 | FY 2017-18 |  |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|--|
| State Expenditure                |            |            |  |
| General Fund                     | \$977,187  | \$917,695  |  |
| Other and Federal                | \$0        | \$0        |  |
| Full-Time Equivalent Position(s) | 11.5       | 0.00       |  |
| State Revenue                    |            |            |  |
| General Fund                     | \$0        | \$0        |  |
| Other and Federal                | \$0        | \$0        |  |
| Local Expenditure                | \$0        | \$0        |  |
| Local Revenue                    | \$0        | \$0        |  |

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill will increase General Fund expenditures by \$977,187 in FY 2016-17 and recurring expenditures by \$917,695 in FY 2017-18 and each year thereafter. Federal Funds and Other Funds will not be affected.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## **State Expenditure**

This bill requires public institutions of higher education to maintain a report detailing student misconduct investigations related to fraternity, sorority, and other social organizations. The report must be readily available to the public upon request and posted on the institutions' websites. Members of a social organization that are not furnished with the report prior to beginning the official process of joining the social organization will have their membership voided. Before the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year, all institutions must compile an initial report of the investigations begun after December 31, 2010. Additionally, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) is required to monitor institution compliance with the provisions of the bill. Compliance will be determined through at least one scheduled and one non-scheduled audit per year.

**Commission on Higher Education.** The commission indicates this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenditures by \$214,400 in FY 2016-17. These expenditures include the salary and fringe of 2.5 new FTEs (\$204,200) and the cost of contracted legal staff (\$10,200) to conduct the required audits. Additionally, CHE surveyed the public institutions on their

H4521.docx Page 1 of 2

expected additional expenditures for complying with the bill and their responses are summarized below.

The institutions reported this bill would increase recurring General Fund expenditures by \$703,295 in FY 2016-17. Clemson University estimates \$125,000 in additional expenditures for two additional FTEs (\$110,000) and information resource overhead (\$15,000). The Medical University of South Carolina expects \$75,000 in additional costs for the salary and fringe of one additional FTE. The University of South Carolina (USC) estimates \$91,500 in additional costs for the salary and fringe of one FTE in student affairs and one FTE in law enforcement. USC Upstate and USC Aiken reported an additional part time FTE of .67 and .33, respectively, for a total cost of \$55,660. Coastal Carolina University estimates its increased costs will be \$105,600 and be used to hire two additional FTEs (\$93,100) and Other Operating expenses (\$12,500). The College of Charleston expects one additional FTE will be required at an additional cost of \$75,000. Francis Marion indicated \$52,999 in additional funds are required for the salary and fringe of one FTE. Lander University expects the additional man hours needed to comply with the bill will increase costs to the university by \$7,536. Winthrop expects additional expenditures of \$115,980 to hire two additional FTEs (\$97,980) and increased overhead expenditures (\$18,000).

The institutions also anticipate \$59,492 in non-recurring costs in FY 2016-17. USC reported the Columbia campus would need \$26,000 for the additional expenditures of a temporary position associated with researching historical data back to January 1, 2011 (\$18,000) and \$8,000 for reprogramming cost. Additionally, the Upstate campus and Aiken would each need \$2,000 for office and computer setup cost. Francis Marion reported \$29,492 in increased expenditures for coordination setup, additional campus police, and student affairs.

USC Beaufort, USC Lancaster, USC Salkehatchie, USC Sumter, USC Union, The Citadel, South Carolina State, and all of the technical colleges reported the bill would have no or minimal additional expenditures that could be absorbed within current funding levels.

**State Revenue** 

N/A

**Local Expenditure** 

N/A

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

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H4521.docx Page 2 of 2