



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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**Bill Number:** S. 0958  
**Author:** M. B. Mathews  
**Subject:** Law Enforcement Officer Psychological Testing  
**Requestor:** Senate Judiciary  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Gardner and Wren  
**Impact Date:** April 11, 2016 - Updated for additional agency response

**Estimate of Fiscal Impact**

	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
<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	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	Up to \$448,000	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill would have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds. This bill would increase expenditures for local law enforcement agencies by up to \$448,000 in FY 2016-17 and each year thereafter. This fiscal impact statement has been updated to include responses from local governments.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Updated for Additional Agency Response on April 11, 2016**

**State Expenditure**

This bill amends the certification requirements for law enforcement officers in Section 23-23-60(B) by adding that candidates for entry into the South Carolina Law Enforcement Academy will be required to pass a psychological examination. Should an officer's law enforcement certification lapse, the officer will be required to pass a subsequent psychological test prior to being reinstated.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council reports that this bill would have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

This bill amends Section 23-23-60, which states that all new candidates for law enforcement certification must successfully complete a psychological examination prior to being certified by

the Criminal Justice Academy. The bill does not require the completion of a psychological examination for recertification as long as the officer's certificate has not lapsed.

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office contacted all forty-six county governments, the Municipal Association of South Carolina, and the Law Enforcement Training Council regarding the expenditure impact of this bill. Responses were received from Charleston County, Greenville County, Horry County, and Richland County, the Municipal Association, and the Law Enforcement Training Council. Based upon responses received from the surveyed counties and the Municipal Association, some local law enforcement agencies currently provide psychological examinations for new candidates for law enforcement certification. Additionally, the Municipal Association indicates that the cost of the psychological examinations outlined in this bill will cost about \$400 per law enforcement candidate. Further, the Law Enforcement Training Council indicates that approximately 1,120 candidates applied to attend the Criminal Justice Academy in FY 2014-15. Since we have no data on the number of local law enforcement agencies that currently provide psychological examinations, we estimate that this bill will have an expenditure impact of up to \$448,000 on local law enforcement agencies in FY 2016-17 and each year thereafter.

**Local Revenue**

N/A

**Explanation of Bill Filed February 19, 2016**

**State Expenditure**

This bill amends the certification requirements for law enforcement officers in Section 23-23-60(B) by adding that candidates for entry into the South Carolina Law Enforcement Academy will be required to pass a psychological examination. Should an officer's law enforcement certification lapse, the officer will be required to pass a subsequent psychological test prior to being reinstated.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council reports that this bill would have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director