



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3823	Amended by the House of Representatives on April 4, 2017
<b>Author:</b>	Henderson	
<b>Subject:</b>	Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate General	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Shuford	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	April 14, 2017	

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**Estimate of Fiscal Impact**

	<b>FY 2017-18</b>	<b>FY 2018-19</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	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

Existing Department of Social Services child protective services personnel can administer the investigation and intervention activities within their current appropriations from the required reports from medical professionals when drugs and alcohol affect infants. Therefore, this bill would not have an expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Amended by the House of Representatives on April 4, 2017**

**State Expenditure**

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to receive reports from physicians, nurses, or any other medical or allied health professionals when children up to one year in age are diagnosed with neonatal abstinence syndrome or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. Reports to the department are required for children up to one year old, who are medically affected by the presence or withdrawal from alcohol, a nonprescribed controlled substance, or an illegal substance. A report submitted pursuant to this bill does not constitute a presumption of child abuse or neglect. A person required or permitted to report child abuse or neglect, or who participates in an investigation or judicial proceeding is immune from civil or criminal liability which might otherwise result from these actions or inactions when acting in good faith.

The department indicates that existing child protective services personnel can administer the reports required by the bill within their current appropriations. Any investigations and interventions arising from the mandated reports are activities that would be conducted in the normal course of the department's response to child abuse or neglect cases. Additionally, the

department indicates that the reporting requirements of the bill will assist in the State's compliance with the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act as reauthorized in 2010. Therefore, this bill would not have an 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