



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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**Bill Number:** S. 0109 Introduced on January 10, 2017  
**Author:** McElveen  
**Subject:** Aerial Vehicle  
**Requestor:** Senate Judiciary  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Gardner  
**Impact Date:** April 3, 2017

**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	Undetermined	\$0
Other and Federal	Undetermined	\$0
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	Undetermined	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	Undetermined	\$0

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

The implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds. The revenue impact on the General Fund and Other Funds is undetermined because the number of convictions for the new misdemeanor offense are unknown, and therefore, the associated assessments and surcharges cannot be estimated. The expenditure and revenue impact on local government is undetermined for lack of data from which to estimate the number of offenses, summary court proceedings, and convictions, or type of punishment.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Introduced on January 10, 2017**

**State Expenditure**

This bill establishes a misdemeanor offense for the operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle within a horizontal distance of 1,000 feet or a vertical distance of 500 feet from a state or federal military installation when the operator does not have written consent from the commander of the installation. Convicted offenders shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than 30 days.

**Judicial Department.** This bill creates a new offense for the unlawful operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle within a certain distance of a state or federal military installation. Hearings and trials for such offenses will be heard in summary court. Therefore, any costs associated with increased caseloads at the summary court level will be borne by counties and municipalities.

**Department of Corrections.** This bill requires convicted offenders who are required to serve prison sentences to an imprisonment time not to exceed thirty days. As the department only handles prisoners who are sentenced to serve more than 90 days of imprisonment, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund.

**Commission on Indigent Defense.** The implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds, as the agency expects to manage any increase in caseloads within current resources.

**Commission on Prosecution Coordination.** The implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds, as the agency expects to manage any increase in caseloads within current resources.

### **State Revenue**

This bill makes it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle within certain distances of a state or federal military installation without permission. Existing law distributes revenue generated from fines, assessments, and surcharges imposed for convictions in summary courts among the General Fund, specified state agencies and programs, and local governments. Because data is not available to estimate the number of convictions that may result from this bill, the revenue impact on General Fund and Other Fund revenue is undetermined.

### **Local Expenditure**

This bill makes it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle within certain distances of a state or federal military installation without permission. The number of unmanned aerial vehicles that have been or would be operated as prohibited by this bill is unknown. Therefore, the bill's effect on local law enforcement, proceedings in summary court, and local detention facilities cannot be estimated, making the bill's expenditure impact on local government undetermined.

### **Local Revenue**

This bill makes it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle within certain distances of a state or federal military installation without permission. Existing law distributes revenue generated from fines, assessments, and surcharges imposed for convictions in summary courts among the General Fund, specified state agencies and programs, and local governments. Because data is not available to estimate the number of convictions that may result from this bill, the revenue impact on local government is undetermined.



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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director