



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: S. 0220 Introduced on January 10, 2017
Author: Shealy
Subject: Interviews Conducted During Child Abuse Allegations
Requestor: Senate Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Gardner and Wren
Impact Date: January 26, 2017

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditure	Undetermined	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill would have no fiscal impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds. The expenditure impact on local government is undetermined, due to a lack of response from local governments.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2017

State Expenditure

This bill relates to interviews conducted by the Department of Social Services or law enforcement during an investigation of child abuse allegations or of instances of criminal domestic violence to require that hearing impaired children be interviewed using a trained sign language interpreter not related to the child. The interpreter may provide interpretation services remotely via video link, unless the child is unable to understand the video interpretation. The Department of Social Services must maintain a list of qualified sign language interpreters in each county. Interpreters used for these investigative interviews must be chosen from that list. The child's parents, other family members, and potential abusers may not be present during the interview.

Department of Social Services. The department indicates the bill will have no expenditure impact. Currently the agency uses trained sign language interpreters when interviewing hearing impaired children and has a statewide contract for interpreters with the School for the Deaf and Blind and two other companies as backup.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office contacted 23 county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina regarding the expenditure impact of this bill and received no responses. As a result, we cannot determine the expenditure impact on local governments.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director