



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

Bill Number: S. 0479 Introduced on February 28, 2017
Author: Hutto
Subject: Commercial Driver’s License Qualifications
Requestor: Senate Transportation
RFA Analyst(s): Wren
Impact Date: April 4, 2017

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$47,000	\$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	\$0	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

The bill is expected to increase non-recurring General Fund expenses for the Department of Motor Vehicles by \$47,000 in FY 2017-18 for development, modification, updates, testing, and deployment of systems to accommodate the Intrastate Vision Waiver Program.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 28, 2017

State Expenditure

The bill authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to institute and supervise an Intrastate Vision Waiver Program. Pursuant to the program, DMV may waive the vision standards for a commercial driver’s license. A waiver may be granted if the applicant is applying for or has been issued a commercial driver’s license and will be driving commercially only within the state of South Carolina. In order to be eligible to receive a waiver, an applicant, in the two years proceeding the application must not have any suspensions, revocations, cancellations, or certain violations of his driver’s license. Additionally, the applicant must meet the physical requirements set forth in 49 CFR, Part 391.41. DMV may issue a vision waiver if the applicant meets certain vision requirements, has a medical certificate required under Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 391.43, and meets the same requirements for interstate driving. Additionally, the applicant must have held a driver’s license for the previous four years, and the applicant must present the form specified by DMV, which must be signed by an optometrist or an ophthalmologist licensed in the state of South Carolina. The applicant must also present a Medical Examination Report in which the medical safety officer has certified that the applicant is qualified under Part 391.41 in all other physical requirements. If the application

for the waiver is denied and the applicant currently holds a commercial driver's license, the commercial driver's license will be cancelled. Waivers are valid for one year and must not be issued for passenger endorsement vehicles, school bus operation, or vehicles transporting hazardous materials requiring placarding. Applications for the renewal of the vision waiver endorsement will be granted as long as the applicant's driving history continues to meet certain requirements, the applicant continues to meet vision standards, a yearly renewal of the DOT physical is submitted, and all other requirements pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 391.41 are met. A person who does not qualify to drive in interstate commerce may still qualify to drive in intrastate commerce. In such cases, the commercial driver's license will contain a restriction that indicates the holder of the license is restricted to travel in intrastate commerce only. DMV must develop regulations to implement the conditions, restrictions, issuance processes, and other matters related to the program.

Department of Motor Vehicles. The agency expects non-recurring General Fund expenditures to total \$47,000 for development, modification, updates, testing, and development of systems to accommodate the Intrastate Vision Waiver Program.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director