



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number:	H. 4661	Prefiled on November 20, 2019
Author:	Bradley	
Subject:	Restricted Volunteer Optometry License	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith	
Impact Date:	January 13, 2020	Updated for Additional Agency Response

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill authorizes the State Board of Examiners in Optometry to issue a restricted volunteer license to an optometrist who meets certain stipulations. The expenditure and revenue impacts of the bill are undetermined because the number of additional board meetings and staff time required to implement the bill, as well as the number of licenses requested, is unknown. This fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR).

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Updated for Additional Agency Response on January 13, 2020
Prefiled on November 20, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill authorizes the State Board of Examiners in Optometry (board), which is under the regulation of LLR, to issue a restricted volunteer license to an optometrist who meets certain stipulations. To develop this new license category, the agency will need additional board meetings and possibly committee meetings. Board members receive a per diem of \$35 and mileage reimbursement of 57.5 cents per mile. In addition, board meetings require the presence of a court reporter, which averages \$2,156 per meeting. The State Board of Examiners in Optometry has seven members, so each additional meeting will increase Other Funds expenditures of LLR by at least \$2,401. Because the agency is unable to estimate the number of additional meetings that may be required, the expenditure impact due to additional board meetings is undetermined.

The bill will also require additional staff time to handle the issuance of the new licenses. Unlike other licenses issued by the board, the restricted volunteer optometry licenses expire two years from the date of issuance. As the number of licenses that will be requested is unknown, the expenditure impact due to additional staff time is undetermined.

This section of the fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from LLR.

State Revenue

As a result of this bill, the board may experience an increase in the number of board meetings to develop this new license category and promulgate regulations to implement the provisions in the bill. The State Board of Examiners in Optometry falls under the Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing. Pursuant to Proviso 81.3 of the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act, LLR

is required to remit annually to the General Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of board expenditures. In the example of the board, this will increase General Fund revenue by at least \$240 for each additional meeting. The agency is unable to estimate the number of additional meetings that may be required. Therefore, the total increase in General Fund revenue is undetermined. However, the agency anticipates that any increase in General Fund revenue will be minimal.

This bill does not authorize LLR to charge a license fee to offset the costs associated with the issuance of these licenses, so revenue from other license fees must be adjusted to compensate. Therefore, Other Funds of the agency may increase by an amount equal to the costs of issuing the new restricted volunteer optometry license.

This section of the fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from LLR.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Prefiled on November 20, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill authorizes the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, which is under the regulation of LLR, to issue a restricted volunteer license to an optometrist who meets certain stipulations. The expenditure impact of the bill is pending, contingent upon a response from LLR.

State Revenue

The revenue impact of the bill is pending, contingent upon a response from LLR.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director