



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: H. 4758 Introduced on January 14, 2020
Author: Lucas
Subject: Educator Preparation Programs
Requestor: House Education and Public Works
RFA Analyst(s): Wren and A. Martin
Impact Date: February 3, 2020

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will increase General Fund expenses of the State Department of Education (SDE) by approximately \$945,000 in FY 2020-21. This includes \$260,000 in recurring expenses for 3 FTEs and associated operating costs and \$685,000 in non-recurring costs for a data system and equipment. General Fund expenses of the agency will decrease to \$260,000 after FY 2020-21 for personnel and operating expenses.

The expenditure impact on institutions of higher education is undetermined since the institutions are uncertain as to how a unique identification system will be established pursuant to Section 2 of the bill. The establishment of this unique identifier will require the collaboration of all institutions of higher education, as well as other agencies. Due to this uncertainty, they are unable to determine a cost estimate.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) or the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (SBTCE) since it does not alter the responsibilities or duties of the agencies.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2020

State Expenditure

This bill allows educator preparation programs housed within an institute of higher education to submit a separate and distinct educator preparation program for alternative preparation to the State Board of Education for approval. SDE must report the number of individuals employed in the state, by district, with certificates issued by institution of higher education alternative programs to the State Board of Education and the General Assembly before March 31st annually.

This bill also requires SDE to provide each college of education and state-approved educator preparation program with information regarding its graduates before December 1st annually. The information must include criteria as outlined in the bill. Also, a college of education or educator preparation program must develop and use a unique system for identifying individual educator graduates. Information provided to a college of education or educator preparation program pursuant to this bill is not subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

State Department of Education. SDE indicates that this bill will increase General Fund expenses of the agency by approximately \$945,000 in FY 2020-21. Of this amount, \$260,000 is

recurring funding for 3 FTEs, including an administrative assistant and two education associates, and for operating expenses. The remaining \$685,000 is non-recurring funding for the procurement of an educator preparation data system and equipment for the new FTEs.

Institutions of Higher Education. The institutions of higher education are unclear as to how a unique identification system will be established pursuant to Section 2 of the bill. The establishment of this unique identifier will require the collaboration of all institutions of higher education, as well as other agencies. Due to this uncertainty, they are unable to determine a cost estimate. Therefore, the expenditure impact to institutions of higher education is undetermined.

Commission on Higher Education. This bill creates no new obligations for CHE. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on CHE.

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education. SBTCE does not offer educator preparation programs through its technical colleges. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on SBTCE.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director