



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: S. 0017 Amended by the Senate on April 10, 2019
Author: Hutto
Subject: Voter Registration and Election Board
Requestor: House Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Miller
Impact Date: July 1, 2019

Fiscal Impact Summary

This amended bill is not expected to have a local expenditure impact because this bill clarifies the right of a candidate for sheriff or coroner to be certified by a political party so long as the candidate submits a fully completed affidavit.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Amended by the Senate on April 10, 2019

State Expenditure

N/A

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This amended bill allows a candidate for sheriff or coroner to be certified by a political party so long as the candidate submits a fully completed affidavit containing a statement that the person meets, or will meet by the time of the election, the qualification for the office. Additionally, this amended bill requires a coroner to complete a recognized forensic science degree or certification program recommended by the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Coroners Association and approved by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy in his first term.

Current law does not specifically allow candidates for sheriff or coroner to be certified by a political party. Additionally, a coroner is currently required to complete a basic training session determined by the Criminal Justice Academy.

This amended bill is not expected to have a local expenditure impact because this bill clarifies the right of a candidate for sheriff or coroner to be certified by a political party so long as the candidate submits a fully completed affidavit.

Local Revenue

N/A

Introduced on January 8, 2019

State Expenditure

N/A

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill requires each county voter registration and elections board to certify that county's candidates for coroner and county sheriff. Section 23-11-110 lay out the qualifications for a sheriff and § 17-5-130 lay out the qualifications for a coroner. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) contacted all 46 counties to request the fiscal impact of this bill for counties. The counties of Allendale, Horry, Saluda, Barnwell, Charleston, Florence, Lancaster, and Lexington responded to RFA's request.

Allendale, Barnwell, Horry, Charleston, and Lexington counties anticipate no cost or minimal cost to certify sheriffs and coroner candidates. These counties anticipate certifying that the individual counties properly filed their paperwork and are a resident of the county. Lancaster and Florence were unable to estimate the cost of this bill, as they were not sure what steps were required to certify the candidates. If certification requires confirming the paperwork of each candidates filing, Lancaster county estimated no expenditure impact. If certification requires back ground checks and other investigations, Lancaster county estimated the cost of certification for each candidate will increase significantly.

Because some counties expressed concern as to the requirements of the certification process, the local expenditure impact of this bill is undetermined.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director