



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

Bill Number:	H. 3244	Amended by the House of Representatives on March 2, 2021
Author:	Collins	
Subject:	Employment First Initiative Act	
Requestor:	Senate Labor, Commerce, and Industry	
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren	
Impact Date:	April 5, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill creates the South Carolina Employment First Oversight Commission, which must establish policies that support the competitive and integrated employment of individuals with disabilities. The overall expenditure impact of this bill is undetermined since the bill does not specify a state agency to lead the commission. However, we anticipate that organizational efforts supporting the commission and the annual reporting requirements of the commission will require staff time to be supplied by participating agencies.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Amended by the House of Representatives on March 2, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill creates the South Carolina Employment First Oversight Commission, which must establish policies that support the competitive and integrated employment of individuals with disabilities. Members of the commission may not receive compensation, mileage, subsistence, or per diem. Membership of the commission must consist of seventeen members as follows:

- One member must be appointed by the Governor from Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities;
- One member must be appointed by the Governor from the S.C. Developmental Disabilities Council;
- One member must be appointed by the Governor from Able S.C.;
- One member must be appointed by the Governor from the S.C. University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities;
- One member must be appointed by the Governor from a cross-disability, consumer-run, private entity;
- Two members must represent the business community appointed by the Governor;
- The State Superintendent of Education or his designee, serving ex officio;
- The Director of the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce or his designee, serving ex officio;
- The Director of the S.C. Department of Disabilities and Special Needs or his designee, serving ex officio;

- The Director of the S.C. Department of Mental Health or his designee, serving ex officio;
- The Director of the S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department or his designee, serving ex officio;
- The Director of the S.C. Commission for the Blind or his designee, serving ex officio; and
- Four members, each of whom has a disability or substantial knowledge of disability issues and who is employed by a governmental or private entity which provides an employment service to individuals with disabilities. Of these four members, one must be appointment by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one must be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, one must be appointed by the President of the Senate, and one must be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

The Governor must designate one member to convene and organize the first meeting of the commission. All state agencies and political subdivisions of the state are encouraged to consider adopting a policy that encourages competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities.

Within six months after the first meeting, the commission must establish evidence-based measurable goals and objectives to encourage implementation of the bill. Also, the commission annually must, before January first, issue a report to the Governor and members of the General Assembly which details progress toward the goals and objectives of the commission and progress toward the full implementation of the bill. The report must also identify barriers to achieving the outcomes and effective strategies and policies that can help realize the employment first initiative. All state agencies are encouraged to cooperate with the commission on the creation and dissemination of the annual report.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill is undetermined since the bill does not specify a state agency to lead the commission. However, we anticipate that the organizational efforts supporting the commission and annual reporting requirements will require staff time to be supplied by participating agencies.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director