



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:	S. 0187	Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author:	Hembree	
Subject:	Campaign Bank Accounts	
Requestor:	Senate Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith	
Impact Date:	March 19, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will increase General Fund expenditures of the State Ethics Commission (Commission) by \$237,535 in FY 2021-22 and by \$205,535 in each year thereafter. The bill will also increase the Other Funds revenue of the Commission by an undetermined amount annually, which will be used to create positions in the agency to check and confirm the completeness of candidate filings.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires a candidate for appointment or election to a state, local, or federal office to deposit all contributions to his or her campaign into an Interest on Campaign Account (IOCA). The candidate shall direct the depository institution to submit a monthly report of information on the account and to remit interest or dividends to the State Ethics Commission (Commission). Additionally, the candidate or committee shall certify its filings with the Commission annually. The Commission is required to report to the General Assembly and the Governor the amount of funds it has received from IOCA's.

In order to comply with this bill, the Commission indicates it will need three new FTEs: an Investigator III and two Administrative Assistants. The Investigator III will be responsible for conducting criminal and administrative investigations and prosecution of complaints of alleged violations of the Ethics Reform Act, and the two Administrative Assistants will be responsible for receiving and processing monthly reports and yearly certifications from candidates and their committees and for providing information on the funds received from IOCA's for publication in the Commission's Annual Report. These three new FTEs will have a combined salary (including fringe benefits) of \$165,535 per year. Office space, technology, one law enforcement vehicle lease, and other office supplies will increase recurring General Fund expenditures by \$40,000. Non-recurring General Fund expenditures will increase by \$32,000 in FY 2021-22 for law enforcement equipment, body armor, and office furniture.

In total, General Fund expenditures will increase by \$237,535 in FY 2021-22 and by \$205,535 in each year thereafter.

State Revenue

This bill directs one percent of contributions deposited into an IOCA to be remitted to the Commission, which must use the funds to create positions within its employ to check and confirm the completeness of candidate filings. Because the amount of contributions candidates will receive is unknown, the amount of Other Funds revenue generated is undetermined.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director