



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. 0351	Amended by the Senate on April 8, 2021
Author:	McLeod	
Subject:	Discharged Inmate	
Requestor:	Senate Corrections and Penology	
RFA Analyst(s):	Gardner and Griffith	
Impact Date:	April 26, 2021	Updated for Additional Agency Response

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires inmates being discharged from state prisons, as well as certain persons who have been discharged from jails or detention centers, have completed terms of probation, or have been released on parole to be provided with written notice of their eligibility to register to vote and instructions on how to register to vote. The bill will have no expenditure impact on the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) as the duties required under the bill will be managed within the normal course of business for the agency.

The Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services (SCDPPPS) indicates that the implementation of this bill will have an expenditure impact on the General Fund of \$21,093.

The Office of the State Treasurer reports that the implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

The Municipal Association of South Carolina and local governments were contacted about the potential expenditure impact of the bill. Berkeley County and Horry County provided responses that indicated the bill will have no expenditure impact.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Amended by the Senate on April 8, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires the SCDC to give inmates discharged from a state prison, including those on probation or parole, written notice of their eligibility to register to vote upon sentence completion and instructions on how to register to vote. The bill also requires detention facilities, probation agents, and parole boards to do the same for persons convicted of a felony or an offense against the election laws who have completed their sentences, have completed probation, or have been released on parole. In addition, pardon orders must now explicitly state that the civil rights of the pardon applicant include the right to vote and instructions on how to vote must be included with the pardon order. The act will take effect upon approval by the Governor.

Department of Corrections. SCDC indicates that the implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds since the agency currently provides this service and documentation to inmates being discharged.

Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. The department reports that a Field Operations Specialist staff position would fulfill the requirements of the bill. The Field Operations Specialist would perform the duty of mailing notifications to offenders regarding their reinstated right to vote. Based on annual postage and annual cost of staff time, the department estimates the annual recurring expenditure to the General Fund would be \$21,093.

Office of the State Treasurer. The bill requires the State Treasurer's Office to perform activities that will be conducted in the normal course of agency business. As a result, this bill does not have an expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

Local government run detention centers are required to provide written notice of voter registration eligibility/instructions, which may have an impact on the entities. The Municipal Association of South Carolina and local governments were contacted about the potential expenditure impact of the bill. Berkeley County and Horry County provided responses that indicated the bill will have no expenditure impact.

Local Revenue

N/A

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires the SCDC to give inmates discharged from a state prison, including those on probation or parole, written notice of their eligibility to register to vote upon sentence completion and instructions on how to register to vote. The bill also requires detention facilities, probation agents, and parole boards to do the same for persons convicted of a felony or an offense against the election laws who have completed their sentences, have completed probation, or have been released on parole. In addition, pardon orders must now explicitly state that the civil rights of the pardon applicant include the right to vote and instructions on how to vote must be included with the pardon order. The act will take effect upon approval by the Governor.

Department of Corrections. SCDC indicates that the implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds since the agency currently provides this service and documentation to inmates being discharged.

Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. The expenditure impact of this bill is pending, contingent upon a response from the department.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

Local government run detention centers are required to provide written notice of voter registration eligibility/instructions, which may have an impact on the entities. The expenditure impact of this bill is pending, contingent upon a response from local government entities.

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director