



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. 1103 Introduced on March 1, 2022
Author: Shealy
Subject: Child Identification Kits
Requestor: Senate Education
RFA Analyst(s): Wren and Gardner
Impact Date: March 23, 2022

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires the State Department of Education (SCDE) to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to be distributed throughout the district or school upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, or middle school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to federal, state, tribal, or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

SCDE indicates that the cost of each kit is \$15 and anticipates being able to manage the cost and administration of the kits within existing appropriations. Therefore, the bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the agency. For reference, if a kit is requested for every public school and charter school student, the total would be approximately \$11,428,000 in FY 2022-23.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School only serve students in high school grades. We anticipate that the School for the Deaf and Blind will be able to adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), as it does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

This bill will have an undetermined expenditure impact on local school districts. SCDE surveyed the regular districts and the charter school districts and received responses from twenty-five districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicate that any expenses could be accomplished within the district's existing budget as long as SCDE covers the cost of the kits. Six districts indicate varying expenses to distribute the kits depending on the number requested.

The bill will have no expenditure impact on local law enforcement as long as the kits are only processed in the event of a missing or trafficked child. However, there could be a significant increase in expenses if all kits that are distributed must be processed at once by local law enforcement without an emergency circumstance.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 1, 2022

State Expenditure

This bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to be distributed throughout the district or school upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, or middle school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to federal, state, tribal, or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

State Department of Education. SCDE indicates that the cost of each kit is \$15. Further, SCDE anticipates being able to manage the cost and administration of the kits within existing appropriations. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency. For reference, if a kit is requested for every public school and charter school student, the total would be approximately \$11,428,000 in FY 2022-23.

State Agency Schools. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, or the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School since these schools only serve students in high school grades. We anticipate that the School for the Deaf and Blind will be able to adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations. We will update this impact statement if the agency provides a different response.

State Law Enforcement Division. This bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of SLED. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

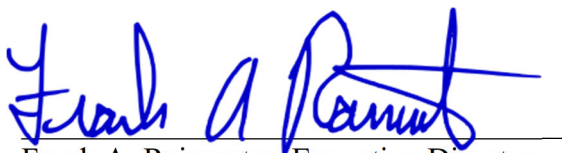
As noted above, this bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, or middle school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to the local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

SCDE surveyed the seventy-seven regular districts and the two charter school districts to determine the expenditure impact of this bill and received responses from twenty-five districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicate that any expenses could be accomplished within their existing budget as long as SCDE is responsible for the cost of the kits. Six districts indicate varying costs to distribute the kits. Total costs will depend on the number of parents and legal custodians who request kits. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is undetermined.

Additionally, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office surveyed twenty-three county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) regarding the expenditure impact of this bill on local law enforcement. We received a response from one county and the MASC. The responding county and MASC indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact as long as the kits are only processed in the event of a missing or trafficked child. The responding entities further indicate that there could be a significant increase in expenses if all kits that are distributed must be processed by local law enforcement at once without an emergency circumstance.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director