



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. 3144	Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author:	Rutherford	
Subject:	Liquor Sales, Certain Days	
Requestor:	House Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Bryant and Miller	
Impact Date:	January 19, 2024	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill authorizes the Department of Revenue (DOR) to issue a permit to allow the sale of alcoholic liquors on Sunday by a licensed retailer in a county or municipality that authorizes the sale of alcoholic liquors by referendum. DOR shall charge a nonrefundable filing fee of \$100 for processing each application and a nonrefundable fee of \$3,000 per year for an annual fifty-two week permit. The filing and permit fees must be distributed by the State Treasurer to the county or municipality in which the retailer who paid the fee is located. The bill specifies that the county or municipality will pay the expenses of conducting the referendum.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for DOR. The department indicates that it has processes in place to update its forms, website information, and system functions, and anticipates that any expenses will be managed with existing appropriations. Additionally, this bill will have no expenditure impact for the State Election Commission as assisting with local referendums is within the normal course of business for the agency.

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) anticipates that this bill will have a minimal impact on liquor sales and resulting sales and alcohol tax revenues. Although we anticipate the provisions of this bill may cause a shift in the manner in which consumers purchase alcoholic liquors, the provisions of the bill are not expected to result in a material expansion of alcoholic liquor purchases.

This bill will result in an undetermined increase in local revenue due to the creation of a new permit allowing the sale of alcoholic liquors on Sundays, the fees from which must be distributed by the State Treasurer to the county or municipality in which the retailer who paid the fee is located. However, RFA is unable to estimate the number of new permits that will be issued pursuant to this bill. Therefore, the local revenue impact is undetermined and will depend upon the number of permits issued.

RFA anticipates this bill will not increase local expenses, as the required referendum vote will be held in conjunction with a general election.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill authorizes DOR to issue a permit allowing the sale of alcoholic liquors on Sunday by a licensed retailer in a county or municipality that authorizes the sale of alcoholic liquors by referendum. DOR shall charge a nonrefundable filing fee of \$100 for processing each application and a nonrefundable fee of \$3,000 per year for an annual fifty-two week permit. The filing and permit fees must be distributed by the State Treasurer to the county or municipality in which the retailer who paid the fee is located. The bill specifies that the county or municipality will pay the expenses of conducting the referendum.

Department of Revenue. This bill will have no expenditure impact for DOR. The department indicates that it has processes in place to update its forms, website information, and system functions, and anticipates that any expenses will be managed with existing appropriations.

Election Commission. This bill tasks the State Election Commission with various responsibilities, including certifying the names on the petition and publishing the results of the referendum. The agency anticipates it can manage the responsibilities of the bill within existing appropriations. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Election Commission.

State Revenue

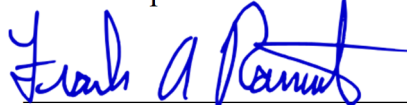
This bill authorizes DOR to issue a permit allowing the sale of alcoholic liquors on Sunday by a licensed retailer in a county or municipality that authorizes the sale of alcoholic liquors by referendum. RFA anticipates that this bill will have a minimal impact on liquor sales and resulting sales and alcohol tax revenues. Although we anticipate the provisions of this bill may cause a shift in the manner in which consumers purchase alcoholic liquors, the provisions of the bill are not expected to result in a material expansion of alcoholic liquor purchases.

Local Expenditure

The bill specifies that the county or municipality will pay the expenses of conducting the referendum. The referendum vote will be in conjunction with a general election and therefore, will not increase local expenses.

Local Revenue

This bill authorizes DOR to issue a permit allowing the sale of alcoholic liquors on Sunday by a licensed retailer in a county or municipality that authorizes the sale of alcoholic liquors by referendum. DOR shall charge a nonrefundable filing fee of \$100 for processing each application and a nonrefundable fee of \$3,000 per year for an annual fifty-two week permit, which must be distributed by the State Treasurer to the municipality or county in which the retailer who paid the fee is located. RFA is unable to estimate the number of new permits that will be issued pursuant to this bill. Therefore, the local revenue impact is undetermined and will depend upon the number of permits issued.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director