



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. 3212	Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author:	King	
Subject:	Mental Health	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Jolliff	
Impact Date:	January 13, 2023	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill creates a study committee to examine the state of mental health of South Carolina residents. The committee is to provide a report addressing specific areas of interest as noted and provide recommendations for legislative, regulatory, or policy changes to address any identified trends by January 1, 2025.

The bill is not expected to impact expenditures for participation on the committee or staffing. The bill specifies that members of the committee serve without per diem, mileage, or other compensation generally provided to members of boards or commissions. Further, the Medical Affairs Committee and the House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee are to provide staffing for the committee. The Senate and House anticipate that they will be able to manage these responsibilities with existing resources.

The bill also specifies that the study committee may obtain data or other information from state agencies relevant to the purposes of the study committee including from the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW). DHHS and DEW responded that potential costs would depend on the volume and complexity of the requests. However, they expect to fulfill data requests with existing staff and resources. We anticipate that DHEC will also fulfill data requests with existing staff and resources. If the agency provides a different response, we will update this impact statement.

Introduced on January 10, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill creates a study committee to examine the state of mental health of South Carolina residents including, but not limited to, trends in mental health treatment and diagnoses, the availability of mental health services, the use of telemedicine, prescribing practice trends, rates of voluntary or involuntary hospital commitment due to mental illness or due to a chemical dependency to alcohol or other drugs, job loss or other employment trends associated with mental illness or mental disorders, and rates of suicide or overdose. The committee is to provide a report addressing these issues and provide recommendations for legislative, regulatory, or policy changes to address any identified trends to the General Assembly by January 1, 2025.

The committee is composed of thirteen members as follows:

1. one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
2. one member of the Senate, appointed by the chair of the Senate Medical Affairs Committee;
3. one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
4. one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the chair of the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee;
5. the Director of the Department of Mental Health, or a designee;
6. the Director of the Department of Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Services, or a designee;
7. the Chief of SLED, or a designee with law enforcement experience related to involuntary commitment or other mental health crises;
8. a probate judge, appointed by the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court;
9. a circuit solicitor or judge with drug court experience, appointed by the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court;
10. two psychiatrists, psychologists, or other mental health counselors with relevant professional experience who treat adults, appointed by the Governor, upon recommendation of an appropriate professional licensing board, one of whom must provide services predominantly to patients in rural communities of the State or to Medicaid patients; and
11. two psychiatrists, psychologists, or other mental health counselors with relevant professional experience who treat children and adolescents, appointed by the Governor, upon recommendation of an appropriate professional licensing board, one of whom must provide services predominantly to patients in rural communities of the State or to Medicaid patients.

The bill is not expected to impact expenditures for participation on the committee. The bill specifies that members of the committee serve without per diem, mileage, or other compensation generally provided to members of boards or commissions.

House of Representatives and Senate. The Senate Medical Affairs Committee and the House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee are to provide staffing for the committee. The Senate and House anticipate that they will be able to manage these responsibilities with existing resources.

The bill also specifies that the study committee may obtain data or other information from state agencies relevant to the purposes of the study committee including from DHEC, DHHS, and DEW.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. We anticipate that DHEC will fulfill data requests with existing staff and resources. If the agency provides a different response, we will update this impact statement.

Department of Health and Human Services. The agency indicates they expect to fulfill data requests with existing staff and resources without a significant impact to expenses.

Department of Employment and Workforce. The agency indicates that potential costs would depend on the volume and complexity of the requests. However, they expect to fulfill data requests with existing staff and resources.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director