



**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.*

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<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3220	Amended by the House of Representatives on May 3, 2023
<b>Author:</b>	W. Newton	
<b>Subject:</b>	Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Judiciary	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Gardner	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	January 29, 2024	

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill, as amended, creates the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act, which, among other things, grants powers to courts responsible for making child-custody determinations, enables parties to a child-custody determination to seek abduction prevention measures, and authorizes law enforcement agencies to enforce child-custody determinations.

Judicial and the Commission on Prosecution Coordination report that the bill may have a minimal expenditure impact that can be managed using existing staff and appropriations. Also, the Commission on Indigent Defense and the Department of Social Services (DSS) report that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

As the bill does not require local law enforcement agencies to conduct activities outside the normal scope of business, no expenditure impact on local or municipal governments is expected.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Amended by the House of Representatives on May 3, 2023**

##### **State Expenditure**

This bill, as amended, creates the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act and grants the court specific powers in cases involving child-custody determinations where there is evidence of a credible risk of abduction of the child. These powers include, but are not limited to, the ability to make motions, obtain temporary emergency jurisdiction, enter an abduction prevention order, issue an ex parte warrant, and order a search of the National Crime Information Center system. In addition, the bill enables parties to a child-custody determination to seek abduction prevention measures to protect the child. The bill also authorizes law enforcement agencies to enter private property in their efforts to locate or return a child who is part of a child-custody determination.

**Judicial.** Judicial reports that the bill may increase court caseloads, which can be managed using existing staff and appropriations. Therefore, the bill will result in no expenditure impact for Judicial.

**Commission on Prosecution Coordination.** The Commission reports that the bill will have a minimal expenditure impact that can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**Commission on Indigent Defense.** The Commission reports that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**Department of Social Services.** DSS reports that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

#### **State Revenue**

N/A

#### **Local Expenditure**

As this bill does not require local law enforcement agencies to conduct activities outside the normal scope of business, no expenditure impact on local or municipal governments is expected.

#### **Local Revenue**

N/A

This bill creates the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act, which, among other things, grants powers to courts responsible for making child-custody determinations, enables parties to a child-custody determination to seek abduction prevention measures, and authorizes law enforcement agencies to enforce child-custody determinations.

Judicial and the Commission on Prosecution Coordination report that the bill will have a minimal expenditure impact that can be managed using existing staff and appropriations. Also, the Commission on Indigent Defense and the Department of Social Services (DSS) report that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

As the bill does not require local law enforcement agencies to conduct activities outside the normal scope of business, no expenditure impact on local or municipal governments is expected.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on January 10, 2023**

##### **State Expenditure**

This bill creates the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act and grants the court specific powers in cases involving child-custody determinations where there is evidence of a credible risk of abduction of the child. These powers include, but are not limited to, the ability to make motions, obtain temporary emergency jurisdiction, enter an abduction prevention order, issue an ex parte warrant, and order a search of the National Crime Information Center system. In addition, the bill enables parties to a child-custody determination to seek abduction prevention

measures to protect the child. The bill also authorizes law enforcement agencies to enter private property in their efforts to locate or return a child who is part of a child-custody determination.

**Judicial.** Judicial reports that the bill will have a minimal expenditure impact that can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**Commission on Prosecution Coordination.** The Commission reports that the bill will have a minimal expenditure impact that can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**Commission on Indigent Defense.** The Commission reports that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**Department of Social Services.** DSS reports that the bill will have no expenditure impact, as any additional responsibility required by the bill can be managed using existing staff and appropriations.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

As this bill does not require local law enforcement agencies to conduct activities outside the normal scope of business, no expenditure impact on local or municipal governments is expected.

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director