



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. 3489	Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author:	Long	
Subject:	Midwives	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith	
Impact Date:	February 6, 2023	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill establishes the South Carolina Board of Midwifery (board) under the administration of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The board is responsible for licensing midwives, establishing requirements for licensed midwives' continuing education, and promulgating regulations necessary for the inspection of records and for the transference of care from a licensed midwife to a hospital, if the need arises. The board is also responsible for establishing fees for the examination of applicants, licensure, renewal of licensure, and inspection.

The Midwifery Advisory Council (council) of DHEC currently licenses midwives under Regulation 61-24. Based upon information provided by DHEC, the council had no expenditures in FY 2020-21 or FY 2021-22 and has had no expenditures thus far in FY 2022-23. Additionally, the bill directs all revenue derived from fees to be used to implement the provisions of the bill. Therefore, the bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on DHEC.

The revenue impact on Other Funds of DHEC is undetermined. It is unknown how many of the current midwife licenses will be renewed or the timing of the renewals due to the extension of the license period. For reference, in FY 2021-22 revenue from current midwife licenses totaled \$3,900, and revenue from apprentice midwife licenses totaled \$600.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill establishes the South Carolina Board of Midwifery (board) under the administration of DHEC. The board is responsible for licensing midwives, establishing requirements for licensed midwives' continuing education, and promulgating regulations necessary for the inspection of records and for the transference of care from a licensed midwife to a hospital, if the need arises. The board is also responsible for establishing fees for the examination of applicants, licensure, renewal of licensure, and inspection. Until the board promulgates its own regulations, the provisions of Regulation 61-24 shall apply.

DHEC currently licenses midwives under Regulation 61-24, and its council advises the department on specific topics. The agency indicates that the council had no expenditures in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 and has had no expenditures in FY 2022-23 as of January 23, 2023. The council did expend \$654 in FY 2019-20 for member-related costs. Of this amount, \$246 were General Fund expenses, and \$408 were Other Funds expenses. However, DHEC expects that the licensing fees collected under the new board will offset any expenses of the board.

State Revenue

This bill states that the board, under the administration of DHEC, is responsible for establishing fees for the examination of applicants, licensure, renewal of licensure, and inspection. Currently, midwives are licensed in twenty-four-month periods. The bill specifies that any midwifery license must be renewed every three years.

DHEC's website states that the agency currently licenses forty-five midwives and fourteen midwife apprentices. The agency charges \$150 for a biennial midwife license and \$50 for an annual apprentice midwife license. In FY 2021-22, Other Funds revenue from midwife licenses totaled \$3,900, and Other Funds revenue from apprentice midwife licenses totaled \$600.

It is unknown how many of the current midwife licenses will be renewed or the timing of these renewals. With the extension of the license period and the number of midwives who will apply for a license is unknown, the total revenue impact on Other Funds of DHEC is undetermined. However, the legislation directs all revenue derived from fees to be used to implement the provisions of the bill.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director