



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. 4100	Introduced on March 8, 2023
Author:	Crawford	
Subject:	Countywide School District Mandate	
Requestor:	House Education and Public Works	
RFA Analyst(s):	Miller	
Impact Date:	April 17, 2023	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires all counties to have one school district by July 1, 2025. This does not prevent a portion of a county from being a part of a school district in another county. This bill also repeals all legislation relating to a school district that is not a countywide school district on July 1, 2025.

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) anticipates this bill will have no expenditure impact on the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). We will update this fiscal impact statement if the department provides a different response.

Currently, the counties of Anderson, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Greenwood, Laurens, Lexington, Richland, Spartanburg, and York have multiple school districts that would need to consolidate due to this bill. Barnwell County also has multiple school districts; however, Senate Bill 654 of 2023, which passed on April 6, 2023, consolidates the school districts within Barnwell.

RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undermined one time expenditure for school district consolidation. However, after the consolidation is complete, this bill may result in cost savings, depending upon how the consolidation of the school districts is structured. Therefore, the local expenditure impact is undetermined.

Additionally, RFA anticipates the local property tax revenue for the consolidating school districts is undetermined, depending upon how the General Assembly provides for the fiscal authority of these newly consolidated school districts.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 8, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill requires all counties to have one school district by July 1, 2025. This does not prevent a portion of a county from being a part of a school district in another county. This bill also repeals all legislation relating to a school district that is not a countywide school district on July 1, 2025. RFA anticipates this bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE. We will update this fiscal impact statement if the department provides a different response.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill requires all counties to have one school district by July 1, 2025. This does not prevent a portion of a county from being a part of a school district in another county. This bill also repeals all legislation relating to a school district that is not a countywide school district on July 1, 2025. This bill specifies the General Assembly, as needed, by local law will provide for the governance, fiscal authority, and administrative and operational responsibilities for the countywide school districts.

Currently, the counties of Anderson, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Greenwood, Laurens, Lexington, Richland, Spartanburg, and York have multiple school districts that would need to consolidate due to this bill. Barnwell County also has multiple school districts; however, Senate Bill 654 of 2023, which passed on April 6, 2023, consolidates the school districts within Barnwell.

RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undermined one time expenditure for school district consolidation. After the consolidation is complete, this bill may result in cost savings, depending upon how the consolidation of the school districts is structured. Therefore, the local expenditure impact is undetermined.

Local Revenue

This bill requires all counties to have one school district by July 1, 2025. This does not prevent a portion of a county from being a part of a school district in another county. This bill specifies the General Assembly, as needed, by local law will provide for the governance, fiscal authority, and administrative and operational responsibilities for the countywide school districts. The consolidation of school districts may have an impact on local property tax collections and millage rates, depending upon how the General Assembly provides for the fiscal authority of these newly consolidated school districts. Therefore, the local property tax revenue for the school districts in the counties of Anderson, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Greenwood, Laurens, Lexington, Richland, Spartanburg, and York is undetermined.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director