



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. 4486 Introduced on May 16, 2023
Author: Burns
Subject: Septic Tanks
Requestor: Senate Medical Affairs
RFA Analyst(s): Griffith
Impact Date: December 12, 2023

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill authorizes the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) to create a pilot program in designated areas of the state that will allow septic tank installers to conduct septic tank field evaluation tests for the department. DHEC recommends a six-month pilot program and indicates that it will require 2.0 temporary positions and miscellaneous operating expenses in order to accomplish the duties required in the bill. Therefore, General Fund expenditures of DHEC are expected to increase by \$101,782 in FY 2024-25. If the pilot program is made into permanent practice, General Fund expenditures will increase to \$207,270 each year of implementation after the initial duration of the pilot program for 2.0 FTEs and operating expenses. The department will request a General Funds appropriation increase to fund these expenses, whether permanent or temporary.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on May 16, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill authorizes DHEC to create a pilot program in designated areas of the state that will allow septic tank installers to conduct septic tank field evaluation tests for the department. In order to be granted written approval from DHEC, the septic tank installer must hold a valid license and must register with the agency. There are currently 1,277 licensed installers registered with DHEC, and approximately 12 have expressed interest in a program to conduct septic tank field evaluation tests.

Based on DHEC's high volume of applications, the agency's current staff limitations, and variation in soil types across the state, the agency recommends a six-month pilot program in the following areas: Greenville, Spartanburg, Myrtle Beach, Beaufort, Saluda, Florence, and Lexington. In order to create the pilot program, DHEC will need 2.0 temporary positions and associated one-time funding for the positions. One of the temporary positions will be responsible for the implementation of the program, including validating septic tank installer licensure, confirming the installer is in good standing, processing registration applications, and granting and issuing approvals. The additional temporary position will provide technical support and audit the work performed. Salary and fringe for each position for six months totals \$41,718.

Additionally, one-time operating expenses are anticipated to total \$18,346 for technology, office supplies, and office furniture. Therefore, General Fund expenditures of DHEC are expected to increase by \$101,782 in FY 2024-25 for the pilot program.

If the pilot program is made into permanent practice, salary and fringe for 2.0 FTEs will total \$101,208 per position each year. Additionally, \$4,854 of the operating expenses will be needed each year as recurring funds. Therefore, if the pilot program is made into permanent practice, General Fund expenditures will increase to \$207,270 each year of implementation after the initial duration of the pilot program.

The department will request a General Funds appropriation increase to fund all expenses, whether permanent or temporary.

State Revenue

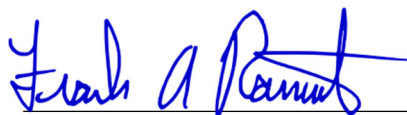
N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director