

## 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.

H. 4680 Introduced on January 9, 2024 **Bill Number:** 

M.M. Smith Author: Subject: Firefighter

House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Requestor:

Griffith RFA Analyst(s):

Impact Date: February 7, 2024

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill amends the definition of firefighter, as it relates to the Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan, to include a nonresident who resides in a contiguous state who engages in rescue, fire suppression, or related activities in this state. The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) reports that the current General Fund appropriation for the Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan insurance policy is adequate to cover the potential premium increases on the policy. Additionally, LLR and the State Division of Procurement anticipate that the insurance policy will not need to be resolicited. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact to the Office of State Fire Marshal, which is under the administration of LLR, or to the General Fund.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## **Introduced on January 9, 2024 State Expenditure**

This bill amends the definition of firefighter, as it relates to the Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan, to include a nonresident who resides in a contiguous state who engages in rescue, fire suppression, or related activities in this state.

Assuming that coverage for nonresident firefighters is retroactive to the effective date of the current statute and insurance policy, July 1, 2021, LLR reports that the current General Fund appropriation for the Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan insurance policy, which is administered by LLR's Office of State Fire Marshal, is adequate to cover the potential premium increases on the policy. The amount appropriated for the insurance policy in the FY 2023-24 Appropriations Act is \$3,500,000. Additionally, LLR and the State Division of Procurement anticipate that the insurance policy will not need to be resolicited. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact to LLR, to the Office of State Fire Marshal, or to the General Fund.

Further, for reference, LLR reports that the bill will apply to ninety active and fifty-four retired out-of-state firefighters. The department does not anticipate that the bill will apply to firefighters employed by fire departments in adjacent states since the bill amends the definition of firefighter but not the definition of fire department, which specifies that the organization is "located and

based in this State." If the intent of the bill is to include firefighters employed by fire departments in adjacent states, LLR will update its response to this impact statement.

**State Revenue** 

N/A

**Local Expenditure** 

N/A

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director