



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:	S. 0455	Introduced on January 26, 2023
Author:	Verdin	
Subject:	Bloodborne Disease	
Requestor:	Senate Medical Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith, Boggs, Gardner, and Tipton	
Impact Date:	March 13, 2023	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill changes testing requirements following exposure to bloodborne diseases and related definitions for health care facilities and professionals. The bill replaces references to physician with health care professionals, includes dentists in the definition of health care professionals, and adds Hepatitis C to the list of bloodborne diseases defined in Section 44-29-230 of the SC Code of Laws.

The bill will have no expenditure impact on the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine, or the Department of Corrections. Based on responses from other agencies, we anticipate that the bill will also have no fiscal impact on the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Further, the bill will not have a fiscal impact on local government because counties and municipalities currently support those who are exposed to bloodborne diseases.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 26, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill changes testing requirements following exposure to bloodborne diseases and related definitions for health care facilities and professionals. Currently, if a health care worker or emergency response employee is involved in an incident resulting in possible exposure to bloodborne diseases, and a health care professional reasonably believes that the incident may pose a significant risk, the health care professional may require the person, health care worker, or emergency response employee to be tested without consent. The bill expands the tests to include Hepatitis C in addition to Hepatitis B, Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection, including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. This bill replaces references to physician with health care professionals, includes dentists in the definition of health care professionals, and adds Hepatitis C to the list of bloodborne diseases defined in Section 44-29-230 of the SC Code of Laws.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. DHEC is responsible for licensing health care facilities, which includes health care professionals' offices. The bill will not impact these oversight responsibilities and will not impact expenditures for DHEC.

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. LLR is responsible for licensing various health care professionals as defined in the bill. The bill will not impact these licensing responsibilities. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact on LLR.

Department of Health and Human Services. DHHS houses Healthy Connections, the state's Medicaid program. This bill will not impact Medicaid provider rates or reimbursements. Therefore, there will be no impact on the agency.

Department of Mental Health. DMH supports the recovery of people with mental illness through a network of community mental health centers, clinics, hospitals, and nursing homes that provide a complete array of medical and support services. DMH already follows the protocols outlined in this bill. Therefore, there will be no fiscal impact to the agency.

Medical University of South Carolina. MUSC educates and employs physicians who may be required to conduct blood tests in cases of possible exposure to bloodborne diseases. We are still awaiting a response from MUSC. However, based on responses from all other agencies with health care professionals that come in contact with bodily fluids, we expect the bill will have no fiscal impact on the university. We will update this fiscal impact statement if the agency responds otherwise.

University of South Carolina. The USC School of Medicine educates and employs physicians who may be required to conduct blood tests in cases of possible exposure to bloodborne diseases. USC indicates that this bill will have no impact on the institution.

Department of Corrections. The implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact to SCDC because the department currently provides health care service to all employees who are in contact with blood or bodily fluids.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) surveyed all forty-six counties and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and received responses from three counties and the MASC. Neither the three counties nor the MASC expect the bill to have a significant fiscal impact on local government.

Local Revenue

N/A



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