



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. 0477	Introduced on February 1, 2023
Author:	Corbin	
Subject:	Judges, Retired	
Requestor:	Senate Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Miller	
Impact Date:	February 5, 2024 - Updated for Additional Agency Response	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill eliminates the option for retired justices and judges to continue judicial service. Currently, a retired judge or justice may continue his judicial service if he is vetted by the JMSC and appointed by the Chief Justice. This bill will result in fewer responsibilities for the Judicial Merit Selection Commission (JMSC), a commission appointed by the General Assembly.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for the House of Representatives (House) or the Senate, as the JMSC will reallocate any time saved to other tasks.

This bill will result in a General Fund expenditure savings of \$500,000 for Judicial as retired judges and justice will no longer serve on the bench; however, it could also increase the workload of current judges as well as increase the backlog of cases awaiting court dates.

This fiscal impact has been updated to include a response from Judicial.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Updated for Additional Agency Response on February 5, 2024
Introduced on February 1, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill prohibits a retired justice or judge from engaging in continued judicial service following his retirement. Currently, a retired judge or justice may continue his judicial service if he is vetted by the JMSC and appointed by the Chief Justice.

House or Representatives and Senate. This bill will result in fewer responsibilities for the JMSC, a commission appointed by the General Assembly. However, the House and the Senate anticipate the JMSC will reallocate any time to other tasks. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for the House and Senate.

Judicial. This bill will impact the workload of judges and justices because retired judges and justices will no longer be permitted to serve. Currently, retired judges and justices help with the backlog of cases including those within the circuits of the seven unfilled judges' seats. There is currently \$500,000 in General Fund appropriations allocated to pay the retired judges. This bill

will result in a General Fund expenditure savings of \$500,000; however, it could also increase the workload of current judges as well as increase the backlog of cases awaiting court dates.

This fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from Judicial.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Introduced on February 1, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill prohibits a retired justice or judge from engaging in continued judicial service following his retirement. Currently, a retired judge or justice may continue his judicial service if he is vetted by the JMSC and appointed by the Chief Justice.

House or Representatives and Senate. This bill will result in fewer responsibilities for the JMSC, a commission appointed by the General Assembly. However, the House and the Senate anticipate the JMSC will reallocate any time to other tasks. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for the House and Senate.

Judicial. This bill will impact the workload of judges and justices. Judicial is reviewing this bill to determine the impact. As such, the fiscal impact is pending, contingent upon a response from Judicial.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director