

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.

S. 0729 Introduced on April 13, 2023 **Bill Number:**

Author: Gambrell Subject: **ROTC Credits** Senate Education Requestor:

RFA Analyst(s): **Bryant**

Impact Date: February 13, 2024

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill provides that training in a military or naval ROTC program sponsored by one of the military services of the United States in the eighth grade satisfies the physical education requirements for high school graduation.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) is pending, contingent upon a response.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that they can manage the provisions of the bill with existing appropriations.

Local school districts indicated this bill may increase expenses if districts decide to incorporate the ROTC program in the eighth-grade curriculum. Expenses will depend upon the number of students who choose to participate in the program. SCDE surveyed the seventy-three regular school districts and three charter districts regarding the potential expenditure impact of the bill and received responses from twenty-five districts. Twenty-one of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact if the districts are not required to offer the ROTC program to eight grade students. The remaining four responding districts indicate that if they choose to offer the program, expenses could increase by an amount ranging from \$27,500 to \$720,000 for transportation, hiring additional ROTC instructors, and purchasing instructional materials, uniforms, and equipment.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on April 13, 2023 State Expenditure

This bill provides that training in a military or naval ROTC program sponsored by one of the military services of the United States in the eighth grade satisfies the physical education requirements for high school graduation.

S.C. Department of Education. The expenditure impact of this bill on SCDE is pending, contingent upon a response.

State Agency Schools. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that they can manage the provisions of the bill with existing appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill provides that training in a military or naval ROTC program sponsored by one of the military services of the United States in the eighth grade satisfies the physical education requirements for high school graduation.

This bill may increase expenses of local school districts if districts decide to incorporate the ROTC program in the eighth-grade curriculum. Expenses will depend upon the number of students who choose to participate in the program. SCDE surveyed the seventy-three regular school districts and three charter districts regarding the potential expenditure impact of the bill and received responses from twenty-five districts. Twenty-one of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact if the districts are not required to offer the ROTC program to eight grade students. The remaining four responding districts indicate that if they choose to offer the program, expenses could increase by an amount ranging from \$27,500 to \$720,000 for transportation, hiring additional ROTC instructors, and purchasing instructional materials, uniforms, and equipment.

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director