



**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.*

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<b>Bill Number:</b>	S. 0844	Introduced on January 9, 2024
<b>Author:</b>	Rankin	
<b>Subject:</b>	Study Committee	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Judiciary	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Bryant	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	January 18, 2024	

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This joint resolution creates a committee to study and review South Carolina's civil justice and insurance laws regarding coverage availability, premium rates, and deductibles. The resolution also specifies the membership and reporting requirements of the committee.

This resolution is not expected to impact expenditures for participation on the committee. The resolution specifies that committee members will serve without compensation and are ineligible for the usual mileage, subsistence, and per diem generally provided to members of state boards, committees, and commissions. Further, the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, House Judiciary Committee, and House Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee are to provide staffing for the committee. The Senate and the House anticipate that they will manage these responsibilities with existing resources.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

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

#### **State Expenditure**

This joint resolution creates a committee to study and review South Carolina's civil justice and insurance laws regarding coverage availability, premium rates, and deductibles for property and casualty insurance for the following categories:

- single-family dwellings, multi-family units, condominium complexes, and commercial buildings;
- automobiles and trucks;
- commercial general liability;
- business; and
- restaurant, tavern, and bar liquor liability.

The committee will also review how other states' civil justice and insurance laws compare with South Carolina's laws regarding coverage availability, premium rates, and deductibles. The committee is to provide a report on its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor and make the report available to the public on the General Assembly's website by January 31, 2025, at which time the committee will be dissolved.

The committee will be comprised of the following nine members:

- a member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- a member of the Senate, appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Banking and Insurance committee;
- a member of the Senate, appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary committee;
- three members of the House, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- a member of the public at large with substantial academic or professional experience in the insurance industry, appointed by the Governor;
- a member of the public at large who is a practicing attorney with extensive experience representing plaintiffs in insurance-related litigation, appointed by the Governor; and
- a member of the public at large who is a practicing attorney with extensive insurance defense experience.

The resolution specifies that committee members will serve without compensation and are ineligible for the usual mileage, subsistence, and per diem generally provided to members of state boards, committees, and commissions. The Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, House Judiciary Committee, and House Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee are to provide staffing for the committee. Any other expenses incurred by the committee will be paid equally from each chamber's approved account subject to the approval of the Senate Operations and Management Committee and the Speaker of the House.

**House of Representatives and Senate.** This resolution is not expected to impact expenditures for participation on the committee. The resolution specifies that committee members will serve without compensation, and are ineligible for the usual mileage, subsistence, and per diem generally provided to members of state boards, committees, and commissions. The Senate and the House anticipate that they will manage any staffing responsibilities and other expenses incurred by the committee with existing resources.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director