

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:	H. 3335 Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Designation of Representation in Magistrates Court
Requestor:	House Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s):	Welsh
Impact Date:	April 17, 2025

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill adds housing authorities to corporations and partnerships as entities that may designate an employee or principal to represent them in magistrates court.

Judicial anticipates this bill may result in an increase in the number of civil cases originating in magistrates court, which may increase the workload of the court system. The potential increase will depend on whether housing authorities will file more civil suits due to this bill. Judicial anticipates that the increase in cases can be initially managed within existing appropriations. However, Judicial indicates that if the increase in the caseload is significant, it will request additional General Fund appropriations.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Housing Authority as it does not operationally or fiscally impact the agency.

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) contacted all counties and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) to determine the local expenditure impact of this bill. We received responses from Florence County and MASC. Florence does not anticipate any expenditure impact from this bill. Additionally, MASC anticipates this bill will have no impact on municipalities.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025 State Expenditure

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This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Housing Authority as it does not operationally or fiscally impact the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

RFA contacted all counties and MASC to determine the local expenditure impact of this bill. We received responses from Florence County and MASC. Florence does not anticipate any expenditure impact from this bill. Additionally, MASC anticipates this bill will have no impact on municipalities.

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director