



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. 3622	Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Private Guardians ad Litem	
Requestor:	House Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Boggs	
Impact Date:	April 24, 2025	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires a guardian ad litem appointed in private custody or visitation cases pursuant to §63-3-810 to be a licensed attorney in South Carolina and in good standing, except in cases where both parties are unrepresented.

Judicial states this bill may impact the pace at which family court cases are heard and disposed of, especially in counties where there are fewer licensed attorneys. Judicial anticipates this bill can be managed within existing appropriations. However, if this bill results in a significant unanticipated impact on caseloads, the agency anticipates an increase in General Fund appropriations may be requested.

The Department of Children's Advocacy (DCA) indicates that it administers the Cass Elias McCarter Guardian ad Litem Program which manages volunteer guardians ad litem, not private guardians ad litem, and therefore, are not subject to the requirements of this bill.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) states that the agency does not manage private guardians ad litem, and therefore, are not subject to the requirements of this bill.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025

State Expenditure

This bill requires a guardian ad litem appointed in private custody or visitation cases pursuant to §63-3-810 to be a licensed attorney in South Carolina and in good standing, except in cases where both parties are unrepresented.

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Department of Social Services. DSS states that the agency does not manage private guardians ad litem and therefore, are not subject to the requirements of this bill.

State Revenue

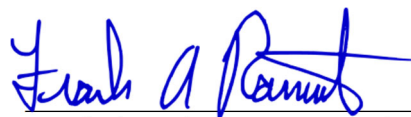
N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director