



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. 4163 Signed by Governor on May 18, 2026
Subject: South Carolina High School Athletic Association
Requestor: House of Representatives
RFA Analyst(s): Bryant
Impact Date: June 15, 2026

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill enacts the "South Carolina High School League Oversight and Accountability Act". The bill establishes requirements for interscholastic athletic associations, bodies, or entities as a condition for public school districts, including charter schools and their authorizers, to join, affiliate with, pay dues or fees to, or in any way financially support the athletic association, body, or entity. The bill also provides that a student who attends a school outside of his attendance zone may immediately participate in interscholastic competitions if the student is otherwise academically eligible and certain conditions are met. Additionally, the bill requires the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity to establish an appeals process through which appeals of decisions by the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity may be made to a disinterested third-party appellate panel. Lastly, the bill specifies that an interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity is an "agency" for the purposes of Section 2-2-10(1), relating to definitions concerning legislative oversight of executive departments, and a "state agency" for the purposes of Section 2-15-50, relating to definitions concerning the Legislative Audit Council.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE), the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Legislative Audit Council, or the S.C. Ethics Commission, as they anticipate that the requirements of the bill can be managed with existing appropriations.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts will vary. SCDE surveyed the seventy-two regular school districts and three charter school districts and received responses from seven districts. Three of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. One district anticipates a minimal impact due to costs associated with travel for training or meetings. One district anticipates that this bill will increase expenses by an amount up to \$165,000 for additional staff, including a coordinator and assistant to manage the implementation of the provisions of the bill and keep records, estimated annual dues, and potential legal costs. The remaining two districts indicate that the expenditure impact is currently undetermined.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Signed by Governor on May 18, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill enacts the "South Carolina High School League Oversight and Accountability Act". The bill establishes requirements for interscholastic athletic associations, bodies, or entities as a condition for public school districts, including charter schools and their authorizers, to join, affiliate with, pay dues or fees to, or in any way financially support the association, body, or entity. Among the requirements, the bill specifies that the governing body of the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity must be comprised solely of:

- one superintendent member or his designated district level administrator, one principal member who shall be a member of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators secondary affiliate and one athletic administrator who shall be a member of the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association, from each classification selected by a vote of the respective schools;
- two members appointed by the Chair of the House Education and Public Works Committee, who are not employees of any high school league member school or its school district;
- two members appointed by the Chair of the Senate Education Committee, who are not employees of any high school league member school or its school district;
- the State Superintendent of Education or his designee;
- one middle school representative, selected by a vote of the respective schools, who must be a superintendent, principal, or athletic director; and
- one representative from private member schools and one representative from charter member schools selected by a vote of the respective schools, who must be a superintendent, principal, or athletic director.

The bill also specifies that the constitution, bylaws, rules, or other governing documents that govern the association, body, or entity must contain a provision requiring that an interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity be subject to audits performed by the Legislative Audit Council. Additionally, the commissioner of the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity must file an annual Statement of Economic Interest with the South Carolina Ethics Commission.

The bill provides that a student who attends a school outside of his attendance zone may immediately participate in interscholastic competitions if the student is otherwise academically eligible and certain conditions are met. The bill also requires the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity to establish an appeals process through which appeals of decisions by the interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity may be made to a disinterested third-party appellate panel. Lastly, the bill specifies that an interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity is an "agency" for the purpose of Section 2-2-10(1), relating to definitions concerning legislative oversight of executive departments, and Section 2-15-50, relating to definitions concerning the Legislative Audit Council.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE, the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Legislative Audit Council, or the S.C. Ethics Commission, as they anticipate that the requirements of the bill can be managed with existing appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

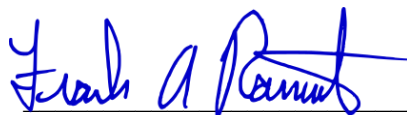
Local Expenditure

This bill enacts the "South Carolina High School League Oversight and Accountability Act". The bill establishes requirements for interscholastic athletic associations, bodies, or entities as a condition for public school districts, including charter schools and their authorizers, to join, affiliate with, pay dues or fees to, or in any way financially support the athletic association, body, or entity. The bill also provides that a student who attends a school outside of his attendance zone may immediately participate in interscholastic competitions if the student is otherwise academically eligible and certain conditions are met.

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Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director