



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. 4696 Introduced on January 13, 2026
Subject: Infant Save Haven Placement
Requestor: House Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Boggs
Impact Date: February 4, 2026

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill increases the age of an infant that may be left at a safe haven without prosecution for any criminal offense from not more than 60 days old to one year old.

This bill could potentially decrease the number of unlawful conduct cases in circuit court but may increase the number of Daniel's Law cases filed in family court. Judicial anticipates that the potential impact to caseload can be managed within existing appropriations. However, if the bill has an unanticipated impact on caseloads or expenses, Judicial will request an increase in General Fund appropriations. Any resources made available due to this shift in caseload will be reallocated to other needs within court system.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is continuing to analyze the bill. The fiscal impact of this bill is pending, contingent on a response from the agency.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 13, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill increases the age in which a person may leave an infant at a safe haven without prosecution for any criminal offense from not more than 60 days old to one year old.

This bill could potentially decrease the number of unlawful conduct cases in circuit court but may increase the number of Daniel's Law cases filed in family court. Judicial anticipates that the potential impact to caseload can be managed within existing appropriations. However, if the bill has an unanticipated impact on caseloads or expenses, Judicial will request an increase in General Fund appropriations. Any resources made available due to this shift in caseload will be reallocated to other needs within the court system.

DSS is continuing to analyze the bill. The fiscal impact of this bill is pending, contingent on a response from the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director