



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. 4736 Introduced on January 13, 2026
Subject: Training for New Commission on Higher Education Commissioners
Requestor: House Education and Public Works
RFA Analyst(s): Tipton
Impact Date: January 23, 2026

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) to establish a board orientation program designed to address the role, duties, and responsibilities of the commission for new commission members, to be conducted at least once during their first year of membership. The bill specifies training and continuing education requirements and provides that CHE must report annually to the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee the number of hours of training and development that each member of the commission received during the preceding fiscal year.

This bill will increase General Fund expenses for CHE by approximately \$46,600 in FY 2026-27 and will decrease to \$26,600 each year thereafter to comply with the ongoing training and continuing education requirements for commissioners set by the bill. CHE indicates that these expenses would be for one-time training for all commissioners, then annual conference visits ensuring that each commissioner will attend the conference once in a four-year term. CHE indicates that additional General Funds would be needed to cover these expenses.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 13, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill requires CHE to establish a board orientation program designed to address the role, duties, and responsibilities of the commission for new commission members, to be conducted at least once during their first year of membership. The bill enumerates several requirements of the orientation and training program, including that commission members become familiar with their duties, accounting methods and fiduciary requirements of the commission, regulatory and statutory requirements of the commission, and other requirements related to higher education issues.

The bill states that the orientation program and training must include at least six hours of education and instruction for the new commission members, which may be completed in one block or broken up over the course of a fiscal year. The executive director of CHE must report annually to the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee the number of hours of training and development that each member of the commission received during the preceding fiscal year.

CHE indicates that revising its current orientation program for new commissioners to meet the requirements in the bill would be managed under existing resources for the agency. The agency states that the continuing education and training requirements would require additional expenditures to accomplish. CHE states that for the ongoing training program for all commissioners, the agency would utilize the Association of Governing Boards (AGB). CHE reports that it would arrange a one-day training program conducted by an AGB consultant to provide general training on governing boards, their duties, and responsibilities for all commissioners for total non-recurring expenses of \$20,000 in FY 2026-27. CHE further reports that the agency would send four commissioners and every new commissioner to the annual AGB conference, ensuring that each commissioner would attend the conference once in a four-year term at a cost of \$3,800 per commissioner for total recurring expenses of \$26,600. Therefore, this bill is expected to increase General Fund expenses for CHE by approximately \$46,600 in FY 2026-27. Expenses will decrease to \$26,600 each year thereafter. The agency indicates that additional General Funds would be needed to cover these expenses.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director