



**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. 4813 Introduced on January 13, 2026
Subject: Magistrate Court Fees and Costs
Requestor: House Judiciary
RFA Analyst(s): Welsh
Impact Date: February 3, 2026

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill increases the amount of certain magistrate court fees. The fees increased by this bill are collected by magistrate courts and deposited in the general fund of the county or forwarded to the State Treasurer for allocation to Judicial.

This bill will result in an increase in the fees collected in court. Judicial anticipates this bill will result in an increase in revenue allocated to Judicial from magistrate court fees collected and remitted by counties. Based on the number of filings during FY 2024-2025, Judicial estimates an increase in Other Funds revenue from the increased fees of approximately \$1,755,170.

Additionally, The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) contacted all counties in the state to determine the potential local fiscal impact due to this bill. Edgefield County estimates this bill will increase revenue by about \$10,500. Sumter County estimates this bill will increase revenue by about \$150,000.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 13, 2026

State Expenditure

N/A

State Revenue

This bill increases the amount of certain magistrate court fees. The fees increased by this bill are collected by magistrate courts and deposited in the general fund of the county or forwarded to the State Treasurer for allocation to Judicial. The following table displays the increased fees.

Code Section	Description	Current Fee Amount	New Fee Amount
§8-21-1010(3)	Receiving and filing bond in claim and delivery	\$5	\$10
§8-21-1010(6)	In all civil actions, for issuing a summons and a copy for defendant, and for giving judgment with or without a hearing	\$45	\$65

§8-21-1010(7)	For issuing execution and renewal	\$10	\$20
§8-21-1010(9)	For proceedings by a landlord or lessor against a tenant or lessee	\$20	\$40
§8-21-1010(14)	Filing or issuing any other paper	\$5	\$10
§8-21-1060(4)	For serving a summons, rule, order, or notice by a magistrate in a civil action,	\$5 plus mileage	\$20
§8-21-1060(7)	For levying execution, posting notice of sale, conducting sale, and paying over proceeds	\$10	\$20
§22-3-340	An assessment on all summons and complaint filings in magistrate court	\$25	\$40
§22-3-340	An assessment on all other civil filings, except restraining orders	\$10	\$15

This bill will result in an increase in the fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund and Other Funds, and local funds. Judicial anticipates this bill will result in an increase in revenue allocated to Judicial from magistrate court fees collected and remitted by counties pursuant to §22-3-340. Judicial provided the following information to estimate the revenue impact of the bill based on the number of filings during FY 2024-2025.

FY 2024-2025				
Current Fee	Actual Revenue	Proposed Fee	Revenue With Increase	Total Increase
\$10	\$1,471,851	\$15	\$2,207,777	\$735,926
\$25	\$1,698,742	\$40	\$2,717,987	\$1,019,245

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director