



# 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.*

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**Bill Number:** H. 5131 Introduced on February 10, 2026  
**Subject:** Tribal Governments Special License Plates  
**Requestor:** House Education and Public Works  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Griffith  
**Impact Date:** April 14, 2026 - Updated for Additional Agency Response

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### Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires permanent license plates to be issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to all tribal governments located in the state. The plate that designates a tribal government must include the prefix TG. DMV may issue tribal government license plates six months following approval of their design. The fee associated with obtaining a permanent license plate is \$2.

DMV indicates that the issuance of these new plates will have no expenditure impact to the agency. However, DMV reports that the agency will require six months following the approval of the plate design to accomplish the provisions of the bill.

Revenue generated from the \$2 fee will be allocated to the Plate Replacement Fund, which is Other Funds of DMV. However, since the number of tribal plates that will be issued is unknown, the increase in Other Funds revenue of DMV is undetermined.

*This fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a revised response from DMV in the State Expenditure section and to include a response from DMV in the State Revenue section.*

### Explanation of Fiscal Impact

#### Updated for Additional Agency Response on April 14, 2026

#### Introduced on February 10, 2026

#### State Expenditure

This bill requires permanent license plates to be issued by DMV to all tribal governments located in the state. The plate that designates a tribal government must include the prefix TG. DMV may issue tribal government license plates six months following approval of their design. DMV indicates that the issuance of these new plates will have no expenditure impact to the agency. However, DMV reports that the agency will require six months following the approval of the plate design to accomplish the provisions of the bill.

*This section of the fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a revised response from DMV.*

**State Revenue**

This bill requires permanent license plates to be issued by DMV to all tribal governments located in the state. The fee associated with obtaining a permanent license plate is \$2. Revenue generated from the \$2 fee will be allocated to the Plate Replacement Fund, which is Other Funds of DMV. However, the number of tribal government license plates that will be issued is unknown. Therefore, the increase in Other Funds revenue of DMV is undetermined.

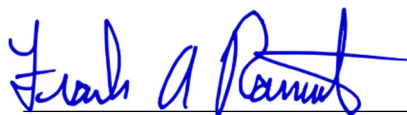
*This section of the fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from DMV.*

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director