



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. 5538 Introduced on April 15, 2026
Subject: Guarantee Banking Act
Requestor: House Labor, Commerce, and Industry
RFA Analyst(s): Vesely
Impact Date: April 21, 2026

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill specifies that a financial institution may not discriminate in the provision of financial services to a person based on the person's exercise of any First Amendment rights or participation in lawful economic activity. If a financial institution takes an adverse action, a person may request a statement of specific reasons after receiving notice of the refusal to provide service, restriction of service, or termination of service. Further, the bill specifies that a person harmed by a violation may initiate a civil action in court. Also, any violation of the provisions of this bill are an unfair or deceptive act or practice subject to the rights and remedies for these acts, and additionally, the Attorney General (AG) or other officials may pursue any other remedies provided for by law.

Judicial anticipates that this bill may impact the number of civil cases filed and the workload of the court system. However, Judicial anticipates any increase in expenditures will be managed within existing appropriations. If the increase becomes significant, Judicial may request additional General Fund appropriations. The Board of Financial Institutions (BOFI) anticipates that this bill will have no impact on the agency in its responsibility for oversight of financial institutions. The AG currently prosecutes unfair or deceptive acts or practices in its normal course of operations, and therefore, the AG anticipates no expenditure impact on the agency.

This bill may result in a change in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in a change to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local revenue due to the change in fines and fees collections in court.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on April 15, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill specifies that a financial institution may not discriminate in the provision of financial services to a person based on the person's exercise of any First Amendment rights or participation in lawful economic activity. If a financial institution takes an adverse action, a person may request a statement of specific reasons after receiving notice of the refusal to provide service, restriction of service, or termination of service. Further, the bill specifies that a person harmed by a violation may initiate a civil action in court. Also, any violation of the provisions of

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State Revenue

This bill may result in a change in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in a change to the General Fund and Other Funds revenue due to the change in fines and fees collections in court.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

This bill may result in a change in the fines and fees collected in court. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in a change to local revenue due to the change in fines and fees collections in court.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director