



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:	S. 0008	Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Vehicular Pursuit	
Requestor:	Senate Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Gardner	
Impact Date:	February 10, 2025	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill defines "vehicular pursuit" and requires the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council (LETC) to establish policies, procedures, and training courses that establish the circumstances under which a law enforcement officer may engage in such pursuit. The bill also establishes the circumstances under which an officer may fire a weapon upon a moving vehicle.

LETC, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) anticipate this bill will have no expenditure impact. The agencies anticipate being able to manage any increase in workload due to this bill with existing staff and within existing appropriations. Additionally, LETC notes that the current training course is sufficient to meet the bill's requirement to provide a training course.

Additionally, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) contacted all forty-six counties and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC). No responses were received from the counties. MASC indicates the bill is expected to impact local law enforcement training budgets and may expand liability exposure when there is officer negligence related to a vehicular pursuit. As LETC has not established the new vehicular pursuit rules, and as there are no data on the number of cases involving officer negligence in a vehicular pursuit, the expenditure impact for municipalities and counties is undetermined.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025

State Expenditure

This bill defines "vehicular pursuit" and requires the LETC to establish policies, procedures, and training courses that establish the circumstances under which a law enforcement officer may engage in such pursuit. These circumstances include probable cause to believe a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a violent or sexual offense or has escaped from a correctional facility; reasonable suspicion a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing an act of driving under the influence; the pursuit is necessary to identify or apprehend a person; or the driver poses an imminent threat to the safety of others. In any such instance, the law enforcement officer must have received proper authorization to engage in the pursuit. The bill also provides that a law enforcement officer may only fire a weapon upon a moving vehicle if

necessary to protect against an imminent threat of serious physical harm resulting from the driver's or passenger's use of a deadly weapon.

LETC, SLED and DPS anticipate this bill will have no expenditure impact. The agencies anticipate being able to manage any increase in workload due to this bill with existing staff and within existing appropriations. Additionally, LETC notes that the current training course is sufficient to meet the bill's requirement to provide a training course.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

RFA contacted all forty-six counties and the MASC. No responses were received from the counties. MASC indicates the bill is expected to impact local law enforcement training budgets and may expand liability exposure when there is officer negligence related to a vehicular pursuit. As LETC has not established the new vehicular pursuit rules, and as there are no data on the number of cases involving officer negligence in a vehicular pursuit, the expenditure impact for municipalities and counties is undetermined.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director