



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. 0402	Introduced on February 27, 2025
Subject:	Vision Care Plans	
Requestor:	Senate Banking and Insurance	
RFA Analyst(s):	Welsh	
Impact Date:	March 19, 2025	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill adds Article 24 to Chapter 71, Title 38 entitled “Vision Care Plans” to regulate vision care plans. This bill specifies that vision insurance plans must allow providers to opt out of exclusive supplier agreements and are permitted to obtain products from out-of-network suppliers without penalty. This bill also mandates disclosures by insurers related to coverage details, real-time benefit information, and up-to-date provider directories. This bill further prohibits insurers from restricting provider-patient discussions about cost and allows insured individuals to buy lenses and frames separately without bundling them under a single coverage limit.

The Department of Insurance (DOI) and Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) anticipate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. DOI and PEBA both indicate the bill is not likely to have a significant impact to agency responsibilities and any new duties will be managed with existing appropriations.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 27, 2025

State Expenditure

This bill adds Article 24 to Chapter 71, Title 38 entitled “Vision Care Plans” to regulate vision care plans. This bill specifies that vision insurance plans must allow providers to opt out of exclusive supplier agreements and are permitted to obtain products from out-of-network suppliers without penalty. This bill also mandates disclosures by insurers related to coverage details, real-time benefit information, and up-to-date provider directories. This bill further prohibits insurers from restricting provider-patient discussions about cost and allows insured individuals to buy lenses and frames separately without bundling them under a single coverage limit.

DOI and PEBA anticipate the bill will have no expenditure impact. DOI and PEBA both indicate the bill is not likely to have a significant impact to agency responsibilities and any new duties will be managed with existing appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director