



# 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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<b>Bill Number:</b>	S. 0738	Introduced on January 13, 2026
<b>Subject:</b>	Unintentional Motor Vehicle Death	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Judiciary	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Gardner	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	January 30, 2026	

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### Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill creates a criminal and civil defense for a motor vehicle operator charged with injuring or causing the death of an individual if, when the injury or death occurred, the motor vehicle operator was fleeing from a mob or riot under a reasonable belief that fleeing was necessary to protect the motor vehicle operator from serious injury or death. The bill also provides that a person who is injured fleeing from a mob or riot, or the estate of a person who dies fleeing from a mob or riot, provides the basis for a civil action for actual and punitive damages against individual rioters, including organizations that participated in or financed the event that resulted in the mob or riot that were the proximate cause of the injury or death.

This bill may increase the caseload in circuit court. However, there are no data available to determine the increase caseload. Judicial anticipates that the potential impact of the caseload in court can be managed within existing appropriations, however, should the caseload increase significantly, Judicial will request an increase in General Fund appropriations.

### Explanation of Fiscal Impact

#### Introduced on January 13, 2026

#### State Expenditure

This bill creates a criminal and civil defense for a motor vehicle operator charged with injuring or causing the death of an individual if, when the injury or death occurred, the motor vehicle operator was fleeing from a mob or riot under a reasonable belief that fleeing was necessary to protect the motor vehicle operator from serious injury or death. The bill also provides that a person who is injured fleeing from a mob or riot, or the estate of a person who dies fleeing from a mob or riot, provides the basis for a civil action for actual and punitive damages against individual rioters, including organizations that participated in or financed the event that resulted in the mob or riot that were the proximate cause of the injury or death.

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**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director