



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. 0858	Introduced on January 28, 2026
Subject:	Foster Care	
Requestor:	Senate Family and Veterans Services	
RFA Analyst(s):	Boggs	
Impact Date:	February 17, 2026	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill renames the Division for Review of the Foster Care of Children within the Department of Children's Advocacy (DCA) to the Foster Care Review Division (FCRD). Further, this bill changes the standards for serving on the board of the Division. Additionally, this bill requires DCA to create local boards for review of cases of children receiving foster care. Under this bill, the Director of DCA is responsible for appointing members to the local boards with recommendations from their county legislative delegation. This bill requires DCA to provide administrative and technical assistance to each board and a training program of the foster care review system for local review board members. This bill requires all public agencies providing services to children in foster care to make records available for review as requested by DCA, the state board of directors, or local review boards.

DCA anticipates this bill will increase expenses by \$13,818 beginning in FY 2026-27. DCA anticipates an increase in administrative work due to member appointments to local boards. This includes, but is not limited to, processing applications, running criminal background checks and credit checks, and requesting reviews of the Department of Social Service's (DSS) Child Abuse and Neglect Registry and Database. The agency anticipates being able to absorb the associated background costs with existing appropriations but will increase the salary and fringe of two employees to absorb the additional administrative work. The agency anticipates requesting an increase in General Funds appropriations to cover these expenses.

This bill does not operationally or fiscally impact DSS. Therefore, this bill will have no impact on the agency.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 28, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill renames the Division for Review of the Foster Care of Children within DCA to the Foster Care Review Division. Further, this bill changes the standards for serving on the board of the Division. Additionally, this bill requires DCA to create local boards for review of cases of children receiving foster care. Under this bill, the Director of DCA is responsible for appointing members to the local boards with recommendations from their county legislative delegation. This bill requires DCA to provide administrative and technical assistance to each board and a training

program of the foster care review system for local review board members. This bill requires all public agencies providing services to children in foster care to make records available for review as requested by DCA, the state board of directors, or local review boards.

This bill will create increased administrative work for DCA due to member appointments to local boards. This includes, but is not limited to, processing applications, running criminal background checks and credit checks, and requesting reviews of DSS's Child Abuse and Neglect Registry and Database. Currently, the appointments of local board members and the associated criminal background checks, required by §63-11-730, are completed by the Governor's Office. DCA anticipates providing a 10 percent salary adjustments to two current employees to cover the cost of the additional administrative services. The agency estimates an increase to expenditures of \$13,181 for salary and fringe benefits beginning in FY 2026-27. The agency anticipates requesting an increase in General Funds appropriations to cover these expenses. Additionally, DCA estimates that each required background check, per application, would cost approximately \$27. The agency anticipates being able to absorb these costs within existing appropriations.

This bill does not operationally or fiscally impact DSS. Therefore, this bill will have no impact on the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director