



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: H. 3732 Signed by Governor on April 3, 2019
Author: Hewitt
Subject: Veterinarians
Requestor: House of Representatives
RFA Analyst(s): A. Martin
Impact Date: May 20, 2019

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill makes changes to the requirements for veterinarians. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) or the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) because it does not substantially increase the regulatory duties of either agencies.

This bill will have no revenue impact on DHEC because it will not increase the number of veterinarians required to register with the agency.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Signed by Governor on April 3, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill requires any veterinarian who is authorized to prescribe controlled substances to obtain a Controlled Substances Registration from DHEC. In addition, this bill adds to the continuing education requirements for veterinarians.

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. Veterinarians are licensed by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, which is under the administration of LLR. The board will be required to monitor the additional continuing education requirements of veterinarians. The board is currently tasked with ensuring that veterinarians comply with continuing education requirements and is considered part of the board's day-to-day responsibilities. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on LLR or the board.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. This bill will require all veterinarians who are authorized to prescribe controlled substances to obtain a Controlled Substances Registration from DHEC. Currently, all veterinarians who choose to prescribe controlled substances are required to register with DHEC and the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) pursuant to the S. C. Controlled Substances Act. All veterinarians choosing to engage in the prescribing of controlled substances as part of their practice would already be registered with DHEC. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on DHEC.

State Revenue

This bill requires all veterinarians who are authorized to prescribe controlled substances to obtain a Controlled Substances Registration from DHEC. Previously, only veterinarians who chose to prescribe controlled substances were required to register with DHEC. DHEC charges a \$125 fee

for the Controlled Substances Registration. All veterinarians choosing to engage in the prescribing of controlled substances as part of their practice would already be registered with DHEC. Therefore, this portion of the bill will have no revenue impact on DHEC.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director