



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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**Bill Number:** H. 4977 Signed by Governor on March 15, 2018  
**Author:** G. M. Smith  
**Subject:** Governor and Lieutenant Governor Restructuring  
**Requestor:** House of Representatives  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Gable  
**Impact Date:** June 4, 2018

**Estimate of Fiscal Impact**

	<b>FY 2018-19</b>	<b>FY 2019-20</b>
<b>State Expenditure</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
<b>State Revenue</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill provides guidance and requirements regarding the implementation of the Constitutional amendment requiring the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor to be jointly elected. The Election Commission anticipates a non-recurring \$50,000 expenditure impact to the General Fund, in FY 2018-19, to update programming and election software to ensure the implementation of the Constitutional amendment requiring the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are jointly elected. This bill adds no additional costs to the implementation. Therefore this bill will have no impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Signed by Governor on March 15, 2018**

**State Expenditure**

This bill provides guidance and requirements regarding the implementation of the Constitutional amendment requiring the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor to be jointly elected. It establishes the procedure by which a person nominated for Governor selects a Lieutenant Governor as a joint ticket running mate and requires the State Election Commission to ensure they are elected jointly. The bill provides for the substitution of candidates for Lieutenant Governor, when the designated Lieutenant Governor dies, becomes disqualified, or resigns before the election. The bill also provides for the appointment of a successor, when the Lieutenant Governor is impeached, dies, resigns, becomes disabled, or disqualified while in office. Additionally, this bill limits campaign contributions within an election cycle to \$3,500 in the aggregate for statewide candidates elected jointly. Further, the bill requires the State Election Commission and the director of each county board of registration and elections to accept filings

during the regular business hours on the regular business days of the filing period, and place an advertisement to appear at least two weeks before the filing period to begin in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The advertisement must be at least seven inches in size and contain information on the filing period, and the offices to be filed for, including the location and hours for filing.

**Department of Administration.** This bill does not add any additional responsibilities or duties for the Governor's office. Therefore, the Department of Administration, as the central administration agency associated with the Governor's office, would also have no additional responsibilities or duties and will have no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

**Lieutenant Governor's Office.** This bill does not add any additional responsibilities or duties for the Lieutenant Governor's Office. Therefore, it will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

**State Election Commission.** The Election Commission anticipates a \$50,000 non-recurring expense to update its system programming to conform to the Constitutional amendment. This bill establishes the specific requirements for the implementation of the Constitutional amendment, which can be accomplished during the system update. The State Election Commission must ensure the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor are jointly elected. Additionally, the State Election Commission must run an article in a local newspaper at least two weeks prior to a filing period during any general election year with information pertinent to filing. While, the Election Commission anticipates a non-recurring expenditure impact of \$50,000, this expenditure stems from the implementation of the Constitutional amendment. This bill adds no additional expenditure. Therefore this bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director