



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: S. 0962 Introduced on February 6, 2018
Author: Alexander
Subject: Addiction Counselors
Requestor: Senate Labor, Commerce, and Industry
RFA Analyst(s): A. Martin
Impact Date: March 7, 2018

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$44,463	\$43,263
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	1.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$4,446	\$4,326
Other and Federal	\$60,000	\$0
Local Expenditure	\$0	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill is expected to increase Other Funds expenditures by \$44,463 for FY 2018-19 and \$43,263 each year thereafter for the addition of 1 FTE and one board member. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund or Federal Funds. This bill will increase General Funds revenue by \$4,446 for FY 2018-19 and \$4,326 each year thereafter, because the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) is required to remit an amount equal to 10 percent of expenditures annually to the General Fund. This bill is expected to increase Other Funds revenue by \$60,000 for the issuance of new licenses. This bill will have no impact to Federal Funds.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 6, 2018

State Expenditure

This bill requires anyone representing himself as an addiction counselor to be licensed by the Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Addiction Counselors and Psycho-Educational Specialists. The bill establishes requirements for licensure as an addiction counselor. LLR does not currently require an addiction counselor to obtain a license. However, a person representing himself as an addiction counselor currently must be certified by an approved certification board. The South Carolina Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (SCAADAC) Certification Commission is currently responsible for certifying addiction counselors. According to DAODAS, SCAADAC reports that there are approximately 400 certified addiction counselors that meet the eligibility requirements for licensure set forth in this bill.

LLR anticipates that it will need to hire a Program Assistant to assist with the activities associated with licensure and administrative functions. The salary and fringe benefits for 1 additional FTE are expected to total \$42,863. This estimate is based on the minimum salary for the Program Assistant pay band. The normal associated non-recurring costs for infrastructure and technological requirements for this position are expected to be \$1,200. Therefore, this bill will increase Other Fund expenditures by \$44,063 in FY 2018-19 and \$42,863 each year thereafter.

In regards to the licensure board, the bill adds one member. Members of the licensing board receive per diem, subsistence, and mileage for each day they are engaged in the activities of the office. On average, LLR spends approximately \$100 per member per board meeting. This estimate is based on the average cost per board meeting. Over the previous four fiscal years, the board has held an average of four meetings per year. Therefore, this bill is expected to increase Other Fund expenditures by \$400 for FY 2018-19 and each year thereafter for the new board members.

The bill also removes two standards committees. LLR will create task forces to assume the duties of these standards committees. Therefore, this portion of the bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

This bill is expected to increase Other Funds expenditures by \$44,463 in FY 2018-19, and \$43,263 each year thereafter. LLR is required to adjust fees biennially to ensure that fee revenue is sufficient, but not excessive, to cover expenses of each respective board. Therefore, the estimated expenditures will be offset by subsequent fee adjustments made to cover any shortfalls in revenue collections associated with the regulation of addiction counselors.

State Revenue

This bill establishes requirements for licensure as an addiction counselor. Addiction counselors are currently not required to obtain a license; however, they must be certified by an approved certification board. According to DAODAS, the Certification Commission of SCAADAC estimates 400 certified addiction counselors that will be eligible for licensure under the requirements of this bill. LLR estimates the licensure fee will be \$150 biennially. Therefore, we expect this bill to increase Other Funds revenue by \$60,000 in FY 2018-19. This revenue will recur every two years.

Additionally, the licensure board for professional counselors falls under the Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing. Pursuant to Proviso 81.3 of the FY 2017-18 Appropriations Act, LLR is required to remit annually to the General Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of expenditures. Therefore, we expect this bill to increase General Fund revenue by \$4,446 in FY 2018-19 and \$4,326 each year thereafter.

Local Expenditure and Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director