



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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Bill Number: S. 0533
 Author: Hayes
 Requestor: Senate Education
 Date: March 31, 2015
 Subject: Teacher Employment & Dismissal Act
 RFA Analyst(s): Walling & Shealy

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$58,350	\$56,250
Other and Federal	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	1.00	1.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	N/A	N/A
Other and Federal	N/A	N/A
Local Expenditure	N/A	N/A
Local Revenue	N/A	N/A

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill would increase General Fund expenditures by \$58,350 in FY 2015-16 and recurring expenditures of \$56,250 thereafter. Federal Funds and Other Fund expenditures should not be affected.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

State Expenditure

This bill enacts the “Teacher Employment and Dismissal Act of 2015”. The bill calls for changes to deadlines described in Sections 59-25-410 and 59-25-420 in regards to teacher employment notification and acceptance of teaching contracts, respectively. The bill amends Section 59-25-460 by allowing school boards to assign designees for dismissal hearings. The Amendments to language of Sections 59-25-470, 59-25-480, 59-25-490, and 59-25-520 allow for conforming changes. Section 59-25-480 further requires that appeals resulting from a decision made at a district level must be referred to the Administrative Law Court.

Administrative Law Court. This bill gives the ALC additional jurisdiction to hear teacher dismissals and would require funds for a staff attorney to assist with researching and drafting orders related to this jurisdiction. The additional expenditures would be \$56,250 for recurring General Funds and \$2,100 for non-recurring funds for a total impact of \$58,350 in General Funds. There would be no impact on Federal or Other Funds.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

Department of Education. DOE reports that the current costs associated with grievance hearings for the school districts, on average, are \$137,100. This cost is based on the assumption that all eighty-two districts have at least one hearing. Each hearing would incur costs of a daily attorney appearance fee of \$875 and a daily court transcript fee of \$800. The fees for each, state-wide, would amount to \$71,500 for the attorney appearance fee and \$65,600 for the transcript fee. Since these are the average costs currently absorbed by the districts, no additional impact to the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other funds would be expected.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director