

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. *S.764*

(Doc. No. 11252ac13.docx)

TO: The Honorable William H. "Billy" O'Dell, Chairperson, Senate General Committee
FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS: Stephen Gardner, Torina Wood, Nicole Jennings, Rodney Grizzle, Debra Duncan
DATE: November 13, 2013 SBD: 2014003

AUTHOR: Senator Alexander PRIMARY CODE CITE: 43-35-200
SUBJECT: Vulnerable Adult Guardian Ad Litem Program

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 764 amends the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Article 2, Chapter 35, Title 43 so as to create the Vulnerable Adult Guardian Ad Litem Program within the Office on Aging. This program will provide for the recruitment, training, and supervision of volunteers to serve as court appointed guardians ad litem for vulnerable adults in abuse, neglect, and exploitation proceedings.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging

The Agency indicates this Bill would require General Funds in the amount of \$492,200, of which \$363,000 would be associated with Personal Services and Employer Contributions and \$129,200 would be associated with Other Operating Expenses. Personal Service costs would include six new FTEs: a Program Manager I, an Administrative Coordinator I, and four Program Coordinators. The methodology assumes one director and support staff would be located in the agency and four staff would be positioned in the field to provide state-wide coverage and would recruit, train, and supervise the volunteer guardian ad litem. Operating costs are based on two employees at the agency and four in rented space out-stationed. Extensive travel would be required to provide statewide coverage. Each recruiter would be responsible for approximately twelve counties. Remote access via information technology would also be required. Printing costs would provide the training material needed for the volunteer guardian ad litem.

Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN)

The Department's each report enactment of this Bill would have a minimal impact on the agency that could be absorbed within the current level of funding.

Other Agencies

The Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Human Services, University of South Carolina, and Judicial Department estimate this Bill will have no fiscal impact on the State General Fund or on Federal and/or Other Funds.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division