

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S1040**

(Doc. No. 22606vr14.docx)

TO: The Honorable William H. "Billy" O'Dell, Chairperson, Senate General Committee
FROM: State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS: Brenda Hart, Torina Wood, Stephen Gardner, Rodney Grizzle
DATE: March 12, 2014 SBD: 2014098

AUTHOR: Senator Alexander PRIMARY CODE CITE: 43-35-5
SUBJECT: Vulnerable Adult and Senior Citizen Protection Act

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 1040 amends the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended by amending Chapter 35, Article 1 to enact the Vulnerable Adult and Senior Citizen Protection Act. The Bill defines a senior citizen as a person 60 years or older and extends protection to these citizens, adds human trafficking as a crime, and adds criminal penalties.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

State Law Enforcement Division

The Division indicates that this Bill will have an impact on the General Fund of the State of approximately \$94,800 in recurring costs. The annual cost will be for 1 Program Coordinator position with a cost of \$54,800 in personal service/fringe and \$40,000 in operating cost for the Train the Trainer session on the Human Trafficking of Vulnerable Adults. (5 Training Sessions per year at \$8,000 per session.) The \$3,000 in non-recurring cost is for office and computer equipment.

Department of Corrections

The Department indicates that this Bill will have an impact on the agency due to the increased criminal penalties associated with this new offense. The increased maximum sentence for this offense, from 5 years to 25 years, will increase the cost to the agency for housing, care and security for individuals convicted under this new offense. Since there is no empirical data relating to the arrest, convictions and sentencing for this offense the Department is unable to provide an exact impact.

Lieutenant Governor's Office of the Aging

Office of the Attorney General

Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

The Agencies indicate that this Bill will have a minimal impact in their agency, which they will be able to absorb at their current level of funding.

Department of Mental Health

The Department reports this Bill would have no impact on the General Fund of the State or Federal and/or Other Funds.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division