

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 1121**

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TO: The Honorable Larry A. Martin, Chairperson, Senate Judiciary Committee
FROM: State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS: Rodney P. Grizzle
DATE: April 10, 2014 SBD: 2014213

AUTHOR: Senator Campbell PRIMARY CODE CITE: 39-5-710
SUBJECT: Unlawful Trade Practices

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
SEE BELOW

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1121 amends Chapter 5, Title 39 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as it relates to Unlawful Trade Practices by making a Bad Faith Assertions of Patent Infringement an Unlawful Trade Practice. The Bill also provides for the court to consider these factors when making a Bad Faith Determination.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Office of the Attorney General

The Office reports that this Bill will have an impact on the General Fund of the State of approximately \$48,000 annually. This cost is broken down to \$45,500 in personal service/fringe benefits and there would be the remaining \$2,500 in operating cost. The personal service cost is for 0.5 of a State FTE and this position is for an Attorney III with half the annual work load dedicated to the duties assigned with this Bill.

The Judicial Department

The Department reports that this Bill will have a minimal impact on the General Fund of the State, which can be absorbed by the agency at their current level of funding.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division