



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

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| Bill Number: | H. 3002 | Introduced on January 12, 2021 |
| Author: | Bennett | |
| Subject: | Instruction, American Founding Principals | |
| Requestor: | House Education and Public Works | |
| RFA Analyst(s): | Wren and A. Martin | |
| Impact Date: | March 5, 2021 | |

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires school districts to provide annual instruction in United States foundational history, as defined in the provisions of the bill, for a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction. This instruction must begin in the sixth grade and continue through the twelfth grade. The State Superintendent must prescribe suitable texts adapted to the needs of the high schools, universities, and colleges for the instruction required pursuant to the provisions of this bill and must include materials from the American Revolution Institute, Hillsdale College, the Heritage Foundation, and the Centennial History of the United States by James D. McCabe.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the State Department of Education (SDE), the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (SBTCE), and the local school districts is pending, contingent upon a response from SDE and SBTCE.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the state agency schools is undetermined and depends upon the costs of new textbooks that must be purchased to cover the additional instructional content.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) since the bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) does not believe that this bill as written will create changes to the curriculum requirements of institutions of higher learning. As a result, CHE does not expect the bill will have an expenditure impact on the commission or the institutions of higher learning.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires school districts to provide annual instruction in United States foundational history, as defined in the provisions of the bill, for a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction. This instruction must begin in the sixth grade and continue through the twelfth grade. The annual instruction must be divided into four sections with each section consisting of no less

than five hours of classroom instruction time. The bill further provides the instructional requirements within the four sections.

In addition to the instructional requirements provided pursuant to this bill, each topic listed within that subsection must be fully covered at least once every three years, with the exception of instruction on the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and the United States Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, which must be provided annually.

The State Superintendent must prescribe suitable texts adapted to the needs of the high schools, universities and colleges for the instruction required pursuant to the provisions of this bill and must include materials from the American Revolution Institute, Hillsdale College, the Heritage Foundation, and the Centennial History of the United States by James D. McCabe. Further, SDE must submit a report by October fifteenth of each odd-numbered year, commencing in 2021, instead of 2017, to the Senate Education Committee and the House Education and Public Works Committee documenting the implementation of this bill.

State Department of Education. The expenditure impact of this bill on SDE is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

State Agency Schools. The overall expenditure impact on the state agency schools is undetermined and will depend upon the costs of new textbooks that must be purchased to cover the additional instructional content. However, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities indicates that the bill will increase expenses of the agency for new textbooks to cover the additional instruction. The agency anticipates the cost of the textbooks to be between \$3,000 and \$5,000, but depends upon the selected text. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe also indicates that the bill will increase expenses of the agency by an undetermined amount for new textbooks. We anticipate similar responses from the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, and the School for the Deaf and Blind. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on the state agency schools is undetermined.

Education Oversight Committee. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the EOC as the bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

Commission on Higher Education. CHE indicates that the intent of this bill is unclear. As interpreted by CHE, the curriculum requirements in Section 1 of the bill apply only to secondary education. Section 2 of the bill enforces the curriculum requirements that are currently in place. Therefore, CHE does not anticipate that this bill will create changes to the curriculum requirements of institutions of higher learning and this bill will have no expenditure impact on the commission or the institutions of higher learning.

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education. The expenditure impact of this bill on SBTCE and the technical colleges is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill requires school districts to provide annual instruction in United States foundational history, as defined in the provisions of the bill, for a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction. This instruction must begin in the sixth grade and continue through the twelfth grade. The annual instruction must be divided into four sections with each section consisting of no less than five hours of classroom instruction time. The bill further provides the instructional requirements within the four sections.

In addition to the instructional requirements provided pursuant to this bill, each topic listed within that subsection must be fully covered at least once every three years, with the exception of instruction on the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and the United States Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, which must be provided annually.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is pending, contingent upon a response from SDE.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director