



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.

Bill Number:	H. 3086	Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author:	Rutherford	
Subject:	License Plate Display	
Requestor:	House Education and Public Works	
RFA Analyst(s):	Gardner and Griffith	
Impact Date:	February 10, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill prohibits a law enforcement officer from stopping the driver of a vehicle having a license plate frame that obscures the plate's figures when the driver has caused no other violations. The Judicial Department anticipates any increased expenditures will be minimal and can be managed within existing General Fund resources.

The Department of Motor Vehicles indicates that there is no expenditure impact to the agency because it does not operationally affect the department.

The Municipal Association of South Carolina and local governments were contacted about the potential expenditure impact of the bill. York County provided a response that indicated the bill will have no expenditure impact.

This expenditure impact is pending, contingent upon a response from the Department of Public Safety.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill, which amends existing law related to the placement and presentation of motor vehicle license plates, prohibits a law enforcement officer from stopping the driver of a motor vehicle with a license plate frame that obscures the plate's letters or numbers in the absence of a violation of another motor vehicle law.

Judicial Department. This bill prohibits a law enforcement officer from stopping the driver of a vehicle having a license plate frame that obscures the plate's figures when the driver has caused no other violations. The department reports that since the bill creates new defenses, there is no data with which to determine the number of general sessions, magistrate, or municipal court filings, hearings, or trials that may be affected. The department estimates the bill will have a minimal expenditure impact, the cost of which can be managed using existing General Fund resources.

Department of Public Safety. The expenditure impact of the bill is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

Department of Motor Vehicles. DMV indicates that there is no expenditure impact to the agency because it does not operationally affect the department.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

The Municipal Association of South Carolina and local governments were contacted about the potential expenditure impact of the bill. York County provided a response that indicated the bill will have no expenditure impact.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director