



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
**(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS**

*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.*

---

<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3164	Introduced on January 12, 2021
<b>Author:</b>	McCravy	
<b>Subject:</b>	AP Testing	
<b>Requestor:</b>	House Education and Public Works	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Wren	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	March 23, 2021	Updated for Additional Agency Response

---

### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill requires each public school district to make certain tests available to students receiving home instruction if the tests are made available to students attending public schools in the district. The State Department of Education (SDE) must create a Homeschool Identification Code for use in differentiating students receiving home instruction from the public school students for the testing pursuant to this bill.

The expenditure impact of this bill on SDE is undetermined and will vary annually based upon the number of home school students that are administered certain tests. The tests range from \$6 to \$134 per student.

We do not anticipate that this bill will have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools since we expect any expenses can be managed within current appropriations.

The overall expenditure impact on local school districts is undetermined. SDE surveyed the seventy-nine regular school districts and the two charter districts and received responses from twenty-one districts. Fourteen of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since they currently offer home school students who are zoned for the district the opportunity to participate in testing in the school building. Three districts indicate that the bill would increase expenses by a range of \$10,000 to \$100,000 for test proctors, expenses for testing rooms, and travel costs for the home school students. The remaining four responding districts indicate that the bill could increase expenses but could not quantify the costs at this time. While we anticipate that the state will cover the cost of the tests, other expenses such as test proctors, testing room costs, and travel costs for the home school students will vary by district. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is undetermined.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Updated for Additional Agency Response on March 23, 2021**  
**Introduced on January 12, 2021**

#### **State Expenditure**

This bill requires each public school district to make certain tests available to students receiving home instruction if the tests are made available to students attending public schools in the

district. Public school districts must also adopt written policies that specify the date by which these students must register to participate in the testing and must notify parents of students receiving home instruction within their school districts of the registration deadlines and the availability of financial assistance to low-income and needy students. Public school districts must charge students receiving home instruction the same fees as those charged to public school students for the same service. SDE must create a Homeschool Identification Code for use in differentiating students receiving home instruction from the public school students for the testing pursuant to this bill.

**State Department of Education.** The expenditure impact of this bill on SDE is undetermined and will vary annually based upon the number of home school students that are administered certain tests. SDE indicates that the cost for assessments (Advanced Placement exams, PSAT, PreACT, SAT, ACT, SC Ready, SCPASS, End-of-Course, Aspire for grade 10, and Ready to Work) range from \$6 to \$134 per student.

**State Agency Schools.** This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity indicate that the schools do not have home school students. The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency. Also, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that any expenses pursuant to the provisions of the bill can be managed within current appropriations. Since we anticipate a similar response from the School for the Deaf and Blind, we do not anticipate that this bill will have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools.

### **State Revenue**

N/A

### **Local Expenditure**

This bill requires each public school district to make certain tests available to students receiving home instruction if the tests are made available to students attending public schools in the district. Public school districts must also adopt written policies that specify the date by which these students must register to participate in the testing and must notify parents of students receiving home instruction within their school districts of the registration deadlines and the availability of financial assistance to low-income and needy students. Public school districts must charge students receiving home instruction the same fees as those charged to public school students for the same service.

SDE surveyed the seventy-nine regular school districts and the two charter districts and received responses from twenty-one districts. Fourteen of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since they currently offer home school students who are zoned for the district the opportunity to participate in testing in the school building. Three districts indicate that the bill would increase expenses by a range of \$10,000 to \$100,000 for test proctors, expenses for testing rooms, and travel costs for the home school students. The remaining four responding districts indicate that the bill could increase expenses but could not quantify the costs at this time, but did indicate that expenses would depend upon the number of home school

students, the cost of the test, and who pays for the test. While we anticipate that the state will cover the cost of the tests, other expenses such as test proctors, testing room costs, and travel costs for the home school students will vary by district. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is undetermined.

### **Local Revenue**

N/A

### **Introduced on January 12, 2021**

#### **State Expenditure**

This bill requires each public school district to make certain tests available to students receiving home instruction if the tests are made available to students attending public schools in the district. Public school districts must also adopt written policies that specify the date by which these students must register to participate in the testing and must notify parents of students receiving home instruction within their school districts of the registration deadlines and the availability of financial assistance to low-income and needy students. Public school districts must charge students receiving home instruction the same fees as those charged to public school students for the same service. SDE must create a Homeschool Identification Code for use in differentiating students receiving home instruction from the public school students for the testing pursuant to 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.** This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity indicate that the schools do not have home school students. The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency. Also, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that any expenses pursuant to the provisions of the bill can be managed within current appropriations. Since we anticipate a similar response from the School for the Deaf and Blind, we do not anticipate that this bill will have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools.

### **State Revenue**

N/A

#### **Local Expenditure**

This bill requires each public school district to make certain tests available to students receiving home instruction if the tests are made available to students attending public schools in the district. Public school districts must also adopt written policies that specify the date by which these students must register to participate in the testing and must notify parents of students receiving home instruction within their school districts of the registration deadlines and the availability of financial assistance to low-income and needy students. Public school districts must charge students receiving home instruction the same fees as those charged to public school students for the same service.

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

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director