

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 3365**

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TO:	The Honorable Phillip D. Owens, Chairperson, House Education and Public Works Committee		
FROM:	State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rachael Fulmer		
DATE:	April 22, 2013	SBD:	2013283

AUTHOR:	Representative Govan	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-63-1210
SUBJECT:	Mental Health Counseling		

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:

This Bill would amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Article 12 to Chapter 63, Title 59 by requiring that each public school in the State to employ a school psychologist on a full-time basis to help school personnel identify students in need of mental counseling, promote awareness of mental health issues, and provide appropriate mental health counseling and make referrals for appropriate social services counseling.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The State Department of Education estimates no fiscal impact to the agency.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

SDE indicates that the school districts currently employ 462 full-time school psychologists. The total current spending for school districts is \$34,806,571, which includes salary and fringe. An additional 900 certified school psychologists are needed in order for school districts to meet this requirement. The estimated cost to local school districts would be \$67,805,010, which includes salary and fringe.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division