

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 3410, House Amendment**
(Doc. No. 3410C001.AGM.AB13)

TO:	The Honorable W. Brian White, Chairperson, House Ways and Means Committee		
FROM:	State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein, K. Earle Powell, Nicole Ford-Jennings, Rachael Fulmer		
DATE:	April 16, 2013	SBD:	2013264

AUTHOR:	Representative Loftis	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	13-1-1810
SUBJECT:	Regional Education Centers		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
Minimal (Some additional costs expected but can be absorbed)

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

BILL SUMMARY:

The House Amendment to House Bill 3410 amends Chapter 1, Title 13 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Article 13 which transfers the powers and duties of the Education and Economic Development Coordinating Council relating to regional education centers (established under Sections 59-59-170 and -180) to the Department of Commerce. The Bill requires the Departments of Employment and Workforce, State Board for Technical & Comprehensive Education, and the Commission on Higher Education to assist the Department of Commerce in planning and promoting the objectives of the Centers. The Bill provides guidelines for cooperation and guidelines for operating the Centers.

The amended version repeals Section 59-59-170, which created the Education and Economic Development Coordinating Council, and also Section 59-59-180, which provides guidelines for the creation, operation and oversight of anticipated Regional Education Centers; both of which are no longer appropriate due to the existence of the Centers and the transfer of oversight responsibility to the Department of Commerce.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Department of Commerce

The Department reports that this Bill would have no additional impact on the General Fund of the State since there is currently an appropriation at the State Department of Education for these centers. It is assumed that this funding will be transferred to the Department of Commerce.

Commission on Higher Education

The Commission on Higher Education indicates that enactment of this Bill as amended would have minimal impact. Additional costs associated with duplicate processes and requirements are expected but can be absorbed.

Department of Employment and Workforce

SCDEW indicates there is no impact with the adoption of this Bill.

State Department of Education

The Department indicates that this Bill would have no impact on the State General Fund or on Federal and/or Other Funds.

State Board for Technical & Comprehensive Education

The Agency has been forwarded a copy of the Bill, but to date, has not submitted impact of the proposed Bill.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brenda Hart", written over a faint horizontal line.

Brenda Hart

Assistant Director, State Budget Division