

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT (803)734-0640 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

Bill Number: H. 3560 As signed by the Governor on June 3, 2016

Author: Limehouse

Subject: Teacher Dismissal

Requestor: House of Representatives

RFA Analyst(s): Fulmer

Impact Date: July 27, 2016

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditure	See Below	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill as amended will have no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Explanation of Amendment by the Senate on May 11, 2016 State Expenditure

The amendment extends the deadline for notifying teachers of their reemployment to no later than May first. The amendment also requires the superintendent notify a teacher in writing as well as give the teacher an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing in cases of suspension, dismissal and non-renewal. The district board may delegate the evidentiary hearing to a qualified designee who must issue a written report within fifteen days of the hearing, or the board can hold the evidentiary hearings and issue its decision within thirty days. If a designee holds the evidentiary hearing, the board must issue a decision affirming or withdrawing the notice of suspension or dismissal within thirty days after a period during which the superintendent and teacher respond in writing to the designee's report and recommendation. The amendment requires the board or its designee to hold a hearing within forty-five days after the request has been served.

The expenditure impact remains unchanged from the bill as filed.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Explanation of the Bill Filed February 11, 2015 State Expenditure

This bill amends Section 59-25-460 to allow teachers the opportunity for a hearing with the board or its designee if they have received written notice of a dismissal. The board can request a hearing officer to conduct the hearing and the hearings must be recorded by a court reporter. A report and recommendations from the hearing officer must be presented to the board. The decision of the board may be appealed to the circuit court.

State Department of Education. The department reports that the current costs associated with grievance hearings for the school districts, on average, are \$137,100. This cost is based on the assumption that all eighty-two districts have at least one hearing. Each hearing would incur costs of a daily attorney appearance fee of \$875 and a daily court transcript fee of \$800. The fees for each, state-wide, would amount to \$71,500 for the attorney appearance fee and \$65,600 for the transcript fee. Since these are the average costs currently absorbed by the districts, no additional expenditure impact to the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other funds would be expected.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director