

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H.3601**

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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 and Rodney Grizzle
DATE: May 16, 2013 SBD: 2013340

AUTHOR: Representative Barfield PRIMARY CODE CITE: 59-1-165
SUBJECT: School Protection Officer

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, as to enact the "School Protection Officer Act," by adding Section 59-1-165 as to define a School Protection Officer and Section 59-66-25 so as to provide each school may employ a School Protection Officer during regular operational hours during the school year. This Bill would add Section 23-23-112 to create a Class 4 Law Enforcement Officer Category for the designation of school protection officers, to provide the Law Enforcement Training Council must develop guidelines for related training that must be offered by the Criminal Justice Academy, and to provide specific requirements for this training.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Law Enforcement Training Council (LETC)

The Council based the cost estimate upon the assumption that all 1,362 schools (adjusting for officers currently at a school) would hire a SPO.

The Council indicates that this Bill will have an impact to the General Fund of the State of approximately \$8,264,393 in recurring and non-recurring costs. There will be a recurring cost of \$250,400 for Personal Service/Fringe Benefits and operating expenses for 4.00 new Instructor/Training Coordinators II positions. The remaining one-time cost of \$8,013,993 for set-up costs of new trainers (\$40,000), training and construction of a building for ALLERT Active Shooter Training on campus. The training costs for 884 new SPOs of \$5,973,993 will be borne over a two-year period. The cost per SPO trainee is \$6,758, assuming that all candidates pass the training the first time. LETC can only train 30 SPOs per class, thereby necessitating the two-year period. In addition, the Law Enforcement Training Council would incur a cost of \$2,000,000 for construction of an active shooter house to conduct ALLERT Active Shooter Training on campus.

State Department of Education

The Department indicates no impact to the General Fund or the Education Improvement Act trust fund.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

This Bill does not require school districts to hire School Protection Officers but allows a school to employ a SPO. Based on responses received for various fiscal impacts relating to school resource officers, the average annual cost for a school protection officer would be \$60,415 (including salary and operating expenses). Additionally, first year costs averaged \$40,950 per officer.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division