



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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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.

Bill Number:	H.4801	Introduced on January 13, 2022
Author:	J. Moore	
Subject:	South Carolina Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Boggs	
Impact Date:	January 24, 2022	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill adds Chapter 42 to Title 44 enacting the “South Carolina Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act” so as to require perinatal health care providers to implement an evidence-based implicit bias program to train health care staff and to establish requirements for the program.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS), or the Department of Social Services (DSS) as they do not provide the applicable perinatal health care. The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) anticipates that any additional caseload will be minimal, and therefore, any expenses will be managed using existing appropriations. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) expects that expenses pursuant to the bill will be minimal and managed using existing appropriations.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 13, 2022

State Expenditure

This bill updates the Health Code to include the South Carolina Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act. This act requires perinatal health care providers to implement an evidence-based implicit bias program to train health care staff and establishes requirements for the program. DMH, DAODAS, and DSS do not provide the specified perinatal care and are not impacted by this bill.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. DHEC is responsible for enforcing state law requirements in the regulations of healthcare facilities licensed by DHEC, including hospitals and birthing centers. DHEC will be required to ensure that all applicable facilities are implementing the program established in this bill. DHEC anticipates any additional caseload or change in responsibilities will be minimal and will be managed using existing staff and resources. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for DHEC.

Department of Health and Human Services. This bill requires staff of healthcare providers undergo training designed to reduce the effects of implicit bias with regard to pregnant patients. The costs associated with this training would be an administrative expense to the provider, which

would be incorporated into Medicaid reimbursement rates. DHHS pays providers on a service-code basis with prescribed reimbursement rates. Though additional administrative expenses put upward pressure on reimbursements, DHHS anticipates the impact of this expense will be immaterial to the Medicaid program and can be managed within existing resources. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for DHHS.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director