



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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Bill Number:	S. 0157
Author:	Shealy
Requestor:	Senate Judiciary
Date:	April 13, 2015
Subject:	Cockfighting
RFA Analyst(s):	Shealy

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**Estimate of Fiscal Impact**

	<b>FY 2015-16</b>	<b>FY 2016-17</b>
<b>State Expenditure</b>		
General Fund	Minimal	N/A
Other and Federal	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
<b>State Revenue</b>		
General Fund	N/A	N/A
Other and Federal	N/A	N/A
<b>Local Expenditure</b>	Minimal	N/A
<b>Local Revenue</b>	N/A	N/A

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill will have minimal impact on the General Fund that can be absorbed by the Judicial Department within their current appropriations. This bill would have no impact on Other Funds or Federal Funds. Any additional costs for the Summary Courts would be absorbed by the counties and municipalities.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**State Expenditure**

This bill increases penalties for cockfighting, creates a new offense for being present at a cockfight, removes the requirement that certain cockfighting offenses be tried exclusively in Summary Court, and excludes minors brought by a parent or guardian to a cockfighting structure, facility, or location from being charged with a cockfighting offense.

During calendar year 2014, there were at least 46 charges and 41 convictions for cockfighting in South Carolina state courts. This data represents charges brought in General Sessions, Magistrates and a partial survey of the Municipal courts in South Carolina.

As a result of the create of a new offense and no longer mandating certain offenses be tried exclusively in Summary Court, it is anticipated that additional hearings will be held in General Sessions court.

There is no data available to indicate the number of additional hearings or trials which may result in the General Sessions courts. It is anticipated that any costs for additional hearings or trials in General Sessions court would likely be absorbed by the General Fund. There is no impact on Federal Funds or Other Funds.

Should this bill result in a significant number of additional hearings, it could result in an increased backlog for the General Sessions Court.

**State Revenue**

N/A

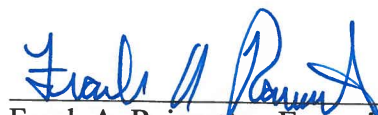
**Local Expenditure**

There is no data available to indicate the number of additional hearings or trials which may result in the Summary Court. Any additional costs to the summary courts would be absorbed by the counties and municipalities.

Should this bill result in a significant number of additional hearings, it could result in an increased backlog for the Summary Courts.

**Local Revenue**

N/A

  
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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director