

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 471**

(Doc. No. 7135ahb13.docx)

TO:	The Honorable Larry A. Martin, Chairperson, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rodney Grizzle and Earle Powell		
DATE:	April 23, 2013	SBD:	2013261

AUTHOR:	Senator L. Martin	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	16-13-131
SUBJECT:	Stealing		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
A Cost of Federal and/or Other Funds (See Below)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 471 amends various Sections of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to stealing goods or merchandise from a Merchant by changing product codes or using false identification to obtain a refund from a business. The Bill also defines the new offenses as stealing and provides penalties for these offenses.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Department of Corrections

The Department indicates that this Bill will have a fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State due to the new and potentially longer sentences that can be assigned to offenders who are charged under these new guidelines. Unfortunately due to the lack of empirical data, the agency is unable to provide an estimate of what the overall impact would be to the agency.

Judicial Department

The Department indicates that this Bill will have a minimal impact on the General Fund of the State, which the agency can absorb at their current level of funding.


LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

Pursuant to Section 2-7-76 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, the State Budget Division has surveyed members of the FIST Network. The responses will be forwarded upon receipt.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division