



**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.*

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<b>Bill Number:</b>	S. 560	Introduced on February 17, 2021
<b>Author:</b>	Scott	
<b>Subject:</b>	Heirs Property Study Committee	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Judiciary	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Williams	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	April 16, 2021	

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This joint resolution establishes the Heirs' Property Study Committee (committee), which will examine the issue of heirs' property in South Carolina. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the South Carolina Senate or the House of Representatives because any additional expenditures associated with the committee's operations can be managed within existing appropriations. The expenditure impact on any other state agency or local government as a result of supporting the committee would depend on the amount and type of assistance requested by the committee. As such, the impact on other governmental agencies and local governments is undetermined.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on February 17, 2021**

##### **State Expenditure**

This joint resolution establishes the Heirs' Property Study Committee. The committee is charged with examining the issue of heirs' property in South Carolina. The study committee's duties are as follows: determine the amount of land in South Carolina that is subject to the heirs' property system, study the impacts of federal and state legislation on the partition of the land subject to heirs' property, analyze approaches and methods undertaken by other states to address heirs' property and study if those methods could be applied to South Carolina, and determine the costs heirs' property presents to the economic well-being of South Carolina and estimate the benefits of proactive measures taken to address heirs' property.

Membership of the committee will consist of three members of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives. The members of the study committee shall seek support from governmental agencies and members of the private sector including, but not limited to, the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation, the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority, the Homebuilders Association of South Carolina, the Landowners Association of South Carolina, the Realtors Association of South Carolina, the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC), and the South Carolina Association of Counties.

The committee will then prepare a report and distribute any findings to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2022, at which time the committee will dissolve.

**House of Representatives and Senate.**

This bill would require three members of the House of Representatives, as appointed by the Speaker of the House, to serve on the study committee. The House of Representatives has indicated they anticipate being able to accomplish the duties specified in this bill using existing appropriations and staff. It would also require three members of the Senate, as appointed by the President of the Senate, to serve on the study committee. The Senate has also indicated they anticipate being able to accomplish the duties specified in this bill using existing appropriations and staff.

The expenditure impact on any other state agency as a result of supporting the committee would depend on the amount and type of assistance requested by the committee. As such, the impact on other governmental agencies is undetermined.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

The expenditure impact on local governments as a result of supporting the committee would depend on the amount and type of assistance requested by the committee. As such, the impact on local governments is undetermined.

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director