## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 857**

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TO: The Honorable Larry A. Martin, Chairperson, Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board

ANALYSTS: Rodney P. Grizzle

DATE: February 25, 2014 SBD: 2014085

AUTHOR: Senator McElveen PRIMARY CODE CITE: 16-1-140

SUBJECT: Felonies and Misdemeanors

# ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES: See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

#### **BILL SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill 857 amends Chapter 1, Title 16 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 16-1-140 which enhances the sentence for an individual convicted of a serious or most serious offense that was committed while the individual was released on bond for a serious or most serious offense for which the individual was convicted.

## **EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

## Department of Corrections

The Department indicates this Bill will have an impact on the General Fund of the State due to the increased population in the prison system because of the increased sentence length, by up to 40%, which can be handed down to those who commit these offenses while out on bond after already being convicted for the same offenses. Due to the lack of empirical data on how many offenders may be charged under these new sentencing guidelines, the agency is unable to provide an accurate impact total. In 2013 there were 1,681 offenders who were sent to SCDC with a violent conviction and of that number there were 241 that had one or more additional violent convictions.

## <u>Judicial Department</u>

The Department indicates that this Bill will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State, nor on Federal and/or Other Funds.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

## **SPECIAL NOTES:**

None.

Approved by:

Brenda Hart

Assistant Director, State Budget Division