



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
 (803)734-0640 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

Bill Number: S. 0498
 Author: Sheheen
 Requestor: Senate Judiciary
 Date: May 20, 2015
 Subject: Drones
 RFA Analyst(s): Gardner, Shealy, and Wren

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
State Expenditure		
General Fund	Minimal	N/A
Other and Federal	\$0	N/A
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	N/A	N/A
Other and Federal	N/A	N/A
Local Expenditure	\$0	N/A
Local Revenue	N/A	N/A

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill would have minimal expenditure impact on the General Fund, as affected agencies are anticipated to absorb any costs with their current levels of funding. The bill would have no expenditure impact on Federal Funds or Other Funds. This bill is not expected to impact municipal governments. Since our office received no responses from the surveyed counties, we are not able to determine the expenditure impact on county governments.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

State Expenditure

This bill adds Section 16-11-605, which deems that the entry upon or above the land of another by a remotely piloted aerial vehicle, or drone, shall constitute an unlawful trespassing violation and establishes penalties for such violations. The provisions of Section 16-11-605 do not apply to law enforcement agencies. Further, the bill adds Section 17-13-180 to require law enforcement agencies to obtain a warrant prior to using a drone for investigative purposes. It also establishes exceptions, provides a civil cause of action for violations, and deems that evidence acquired in violation of the new section shall be inadmissible.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. The agency indicates this bill would have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

Judicial Department. The department indicates that this bill would have minimal expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

State Revenue

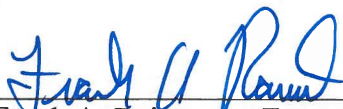
N/A

Local Expenditure

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office contacted the Municipal Association of South Carolina and twenty-three county governments regarding the expenditure impact of this bill. The Municipal Association indicates this bill will have no impact on municipal governments. Since our office received no responses from the surveyed counties, we are not able to determine the expenditure impact on county governments.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director