



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number:	H. 4603	Introduced on January 10, 2018
Author:	Bedingfield	
Subject:	Prescribing Limitations	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	A. Martin	
Impact Date:	January 24, 2018	

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditure	\$0	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill would have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds because it does not materially alter current oversight or regulatory activities.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2018

State Expenditure

This bill limits initial opioid prescriptions for acute or postoperative pain management to a five-day supply, except in certain conditions and when the prescription is to be wholly administered in a hospital, nursing home, hospice facility, or residential care facility. This bill also states that a practitioner who acts in accordance with the limitation on prescriptions as set forth in this bill is immune from any disciplinary action from the practitioner's professional licensing board.

Opioids legally prescribed for pain management exist as Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances. Current law limits prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances to a thirty-one day supply and prescriptions for Schedule III, IV, and V controlled substances to a ninety-day supply. However, current law does not place a restriction on initial opioid prescriptions.

Department of Health and Environmental Control. Prescriptions for controlled substances in Schedule II, III, and IV are monitored by the South Carolina Reporting & Identification Prescription Tracking System (SCRIPTS). Prescriptions for Schedule V medications contain low doses of a controlled substance and include over-the-counter medications. Therefore, prescriptions for Schedule V drugs do not warrant oversight by SCRIPTS. The Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Bureau of Drug Control maintains SCRIPTS. The

limitations required by this bill will be managed by current department staff. Therefore, this bill has no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. This bill states that a practitioner who acts in accordance with the limitation on prescriptions as set forth in this subsection is immune from any disciplinary action from the practitioner's professional licensing board. The bill requires the Board of Medical Examiners to perform activities that will be conducted in the normal course of agency business. Therefore, this bill does not have an expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

Department of Health and Human Services. Pursuant to Executive Order 2017-43 issued December 18, 2017, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has been charged with establishing a policy with a five-day prescription limitation on initial opioid prescriptions for acute and postoperative pain management. This policy is to be established no later than March 1, 2018 and will be applicable to all programs administered by DHHS, including Medicaid reimbursement. Therefore, this bill has no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director