

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.

H. 3953 Introduced on February 14, 2023 **Bill Number:**

G. M. Smith Author: Subject: Consumer Affairs

Requestor: House Labor, Commerce, and Industry

RFA Analyst(s): **Tipton**

Impact Date: March 27, 2023

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill designates and re-establishes the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) as an agency within the executive branch of state government, headed by an administrator appointed by the Governor, and eliminates the Commission on Consumer Affairs.

This bill will have an undetermined impact on DCA expenditures, as any additional expenses related to the transition to the executive branch of state government are currently unknown. DCA indicates that the elimination of the Commission on Consumer Affairs will not result in material expenditure savings for the agency.

Additionally, DCA anticipates that this bill may impact agency fine or fee revenue. However, the Other Funds revenue impact is unknown.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 14, 2023 State Expenditure

This bill designates and re-establishes DCA as an agency within the executive branch of state government, headed by an administrator appointed by the Governor, and eliminates the Commission on Consumer Affairs. Under the provisions of this bill, the employees, funds, authorized appropriations, property, assets, liabilities, and all contractual rights and obligations associated with DCA currently headed by the Commission of Consumer Affairs will be transferred and administered under the reconstituted DCA within the executive branch. The bill further amends numerous code sections to remove references to the Commission of Consumer Affairs and allows oversight by the Governor for certain areas of agency business. The bill directs the Code Commissioner to change or correct all other references to the Commission on Consumer Affairs to reflect the transfer to the executive branch.

DCA indicates that there are minimal expenses associated with the Commission on Consumer Affairs, and that the elimination of the Commission will not result in material expenditure savings. The department further indicates that any additional expenses related to the transition to the executive branch of state government are currently unknown, and therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill is undetermined.

State Revenue

This bill designates and re-establishes DCA as an agency within the executive branch of state government, headed by an administrator appointed by the Governor and eliminates the Commission on Consumer Affairs. DCA anticipates this bill may impact the agency's fine or fee revenue. However, the Other Fund revenue impact is unknown.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director