



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
**(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS**

*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.*

---

|                        |                                     |                             |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Bill Number:</b>    | H. 4113                             | Introduced on March 9, 2023 |
| <b>Author:</b>         | Herbkersman                         |                             |
| <b>Subject:</b>        | Ambulance Assessment                |                             |
| <b>Requestor:</b>      | House Labor, Commerce, and Industry |                             |
| <b>RFA Analyst(s):</b> | Boggs                               |                             |
| <b>Impact Date:</b>    | February 2, 2024                    |                             |

---

### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill allows the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to charge every ambulance service a uniform ambulance assessment fee. DHHS shall establish each ambulance service's fee amount using the best data available as determined by the department in consultation with the South Carolina EMS Association and shall update each ambulance service's fee amount on a periodic basis, but at least annually, as updated information becomes available. Additionally, DHHS may impose a penalty of up to five percent of the fee for any ambulance service that fails to pay the fee within the time required by DHHS for each month, or fraction of a month, that the fee is overdue. If a fee has not been received by DHHS within department timelines, DHHS may withhold an amount equal to the overdue fee and any penalty imposed by the department from any payments due to the ambulance service. Further, this bill creates the Ambulance Fee Trust Fund (AFTF) in the State Treasurer's Office (STO). Also, if the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services does not authorize or withdraws approval of the Medicaid payments made to ambulance services or DHHS no longer collects the fee, all monies in the fund shall be returned to ambulance services.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for STO as the agency anticipates that any costs associated with establishing the AFTF can be managed with existing staff and appropriations.

This expenditure and revenue impact is pending, contingent upon a response from DHHS.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on March 9, 2023**

#### **State Expenditure**

This bill allows DHHS to charge every ambulance service a uniform ambulance assessment fee. The fee must equal the product of the ratio of the ambulance service's net revenue to all ambulance services' net revenue statewide multiplied by the total ambulance service assessment amount. DHHS shall establish each ambulance service's fee amount using the best data available as determined by the department in consultation with the South Carolina EMS Association and shall update each ambulance service's fee amount on a periodic basis, but at least annually, as updated information becomes available. Additionally, DHHS may impose a penalty of up to five percent of the fee for any ambulance service that fails to pay the fee within the time required by

DHHS for each month, or fraction of a month, that the fee is overdue. If a fee has not been received by DHHS within department timelines, DHHS may withhold an amount equal to the overdue fee and any penalty imposed by the department from any payments due to the ambulance service. This bill also creates the AFTF in STO from the revenue generated from the assessment fees. The amounts in the fund must be provided to the department solely for Medicaid payments to ambulance services and must not be expended for any other purpose. If the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services does not authorize or withdraws approval of the Medicaid payments made to ambulance services or DHHS no longer collects the fee, all monies in the fund shall be returned to ambulance services.

**State Treasurer's Office.** STO anticipates that any costs associated with establishing the AFTF can be managed with existing staff and appropriations. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for STO.

**Department of Health and Human Services.** This fiscal impact is pending, contingent upon a response from DHHS.

**State Revenue**

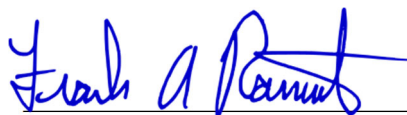
As this bill allows DHHS to charge every ambulance service a uniform ambulance assessment fee this bill, this bill will result in an increase to Other Funds. This Other Funds revenue impact is pending, contingent upon a response from DHHS.

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director