SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number:	H. 3149
Author:	G.M. Smith
Requestor:	House Ways and Means
Date:	April 21, 2015
Subject:	Property taxes
RFA Analyst(s):	Jolliff and Wren

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
State Expenditure		
General Fund	N/A	N/A
Other and Federal	N/A	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	Minimal	N/A
Local Revenue	Minimal	N/A

Fiscal Impact Summary
This bill is expected to have a minimal expenditure impact on county governments for administrative purposes. The bill is expected to have a minimal impact on property tax collections due to a small delay in the timing of the receipt of property taxes.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

State Expenditure and Revenue
N/A

Local Expenditure
This bill amends Section 12-39-360 to require a county to allow an extension on the payment of property taxes for a service member in or near a hazard duty zone. Currently, a county may extend the date for paying property taxes for persons serving within the United States Armed Forces or National Guard in or near a hazard duty zone. This bill would change the section to require a county to allow an extension upon application from the qualifying taxpayer. The deferment would begin on the date the tax is due and end ninety days after the last date of deployment. The county may charge interest on any balance unpaid after the ninety day period beginning from the original due date. Based on information received from county governments, counties seldom receive requests for this type of extension. Therefore, we estimate this bill will have a minimal expenditure impact on county governments for administrative purposes for administering the extensions.

Local Revenue
This bill would allow a deferment on the payment of property taxes for service members in the United States Armed Forces or National Guard serving in or near hazard duty zones. The deferment would begin on the tax due date and end ninety days after the last date of deployment. Based upon the information received from counties, counties rarely receive a request for an extension, and we anticipate that the bill will have a minimal impact on property tax collections due to a small delay in the timing of the receipt of property taxes.

Frank A. Rainwater

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director