



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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Bill Number:	H. 3218	Introduced on January 8, 2019
Author:	Gilliard	
Subject:	Metal Detectors in Public Schools	
Requestor:	House Education and Public Works	
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren and A. Martin	
Impact Date:	March 27, 2019	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Department of Education (SDE) since the agency plans to utilize the expertise of the Office of the Attorney General and the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to assist with developing the required training for school personnel. In addition, we anticipate that any expenses associated with training for the Office of the Attorney General and SLED can be managed within the agencies' current appropriations.

This bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses of the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education by \$92,278,510 in FY 2019-20 for 1,677 FTEs to staff metal detectors. Non-recurring General Fund expenses of the agency are expected to total \$4,780,000 to purchase 956 metal detectors in FY 2019-20.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) since the bill does not alter the responsibilities of the agency.

This bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses of the responding colleges and universities by approximately \$133,625,000 in FY 2019-20 to staff metal detectors. Non-recurring General Fund expenses of the responding colleges and universities are expected to total approximately \$7,168,000 for the purchase and installation of metal detectors in FY 2019-20. The Medical University of South Carolina indicates that expenses for this bill will be in the millions of dollars based upon the number of entrances at campus buildings and hospitals. We will update this section of the impact statement if the agency provides a more defined estimate.

This bill will increase General Fund expenditures of Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, John De La Howe, the School for the Deaf and Blind, the Governor's School for Arts and Humanities, and the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics by \$1,196,857 in FY 2019-20. Of this amount, non-recurring expenses are expected to total \$124,000 to purchase metal detectors at these schools, and recurring expenses are expected to total \$1,072,857 for 32.75 FTEs to staff the metal detector stations. Recurring expenses may increase if schools decide to hire staff at an amount above the bottom of the pay band for a Security Specialist I.

The overall local expenditure impact on school districts is undetermined since it is unknown if metal detectors can be staffed with existing personnel, or if the metal detectors will require additional staff. If additional personnel will be required, using assumptions similar to those used for the special school districts, the recurring expense to school districts in FY 2019-20 could be

\$97,737,000 or more, if additional metal detectors are needed. However, non-recurring expenses of school districts is expected to total \$14,400,000 in FY 2019-20 to install three walk-through metal detectors at each of the approximate 1,200 schools. This amount could increase significantly due to unique configurations at individual schools.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 8, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill requires the installation and operation of walk-through metal detectors at all public entrances of each public elementary school, middle school, high school, and institution of higher learning in the state. Public entrances are defined as the main entrance to each public school building, gymnasium, and football stadium. Service entrances, secondary doors, and school bus loading zone entrances are not included. Public institutions of higher learning are defined as all state-supported, post-secondary education institutions, including technical and comprehensive educational institutions. SDE must coordinate with the Office of the Attorney General and SLED to provide training to school officials who will use the equipment and for the protocol in responding when contraband is detected. The State Board of Education must promulgate regulations to implement this bill. The provisions of this bill are contingent upon the appropriation of funding by the General Assembly for the equipment and personnel training.

Based upon data previously provided by SDE, we estimate an installed cost of \$4,000 for each walk-through metal detector. Also, for this analysis, we estimate that each metal detector at schools staffed by state employees would be operated by a Security Specialist I. According to the Division of State Human Resources, the salary range for a Security Specialist I is \$15,080 to \$27,710. When the cost of benefits and fringe are added, and assuming the employee is hired at the bottom of the band for the position, the total cost per Security Specialist I is approximately \$32,759. As this position must be continuously staffed, we assume that one additional FTE will be needed at each institution to provide coverage for breaks and absences. Additionally, we assume 0.25 FTEs will be needed to operate metal detectors that will only be used during events.

State Department of Education. SDE indicates that it does not expect to incur expenses associated with coordinating training with the Office of the Attorney General or SLED. SDE plans to utilize the expertise of SLED and the Office of the Attorney General to assist with developing the training.

Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School. The agency indicates it has eight entrances, which would be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. Non-recurring General Fund expenses for eight metal detectors at \$4,000 per metal detector will be \$32,000. These eight metal detectors will require 9 FTEs at an expense of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund expense of \$294,831.

John De La Howe. The agency indicates it has eight entrances, which are considered public entrances and will need to be staffed. Non-recurring General Fund expenses for eight metal detectors at \$4,000 per metal detector will be \$32,000. These eight metal detectors will require 9 FTEs at a cost of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund expense of \$294,831.

School for the Deaf and Blind. The agency indicates it has nine entrances, which will be considered public entrances that will need to be staffed. Non-recurring General Fund expenses for nine metal detectors at \$4,000 per detector will be \$36,000. One unit will be located at the football stadium and will not require continuous monitoring. The eight metal detectors that require continuous monitoring will require 9 FTEs, and the one metal detector that requires event monitoring will require 0.25 FTEs at a cost of \$32,759 per FTE, for a total recurring General Fund expense of \$303,021.

Governor's School for Arts and Humanities. The agency previously indicated that it will require two multiple zone metal detectors at a cost of \$5,000 each and two hand held metal detectors at a cost of \$200 each, for a total non-recurring expense of \$10,400. These metal detectors will require 2.50 FTEs, at a total recurring General Fund expense of \$81,898. We will update this impact statement if the agency provides a different response.

Governor's School for Science and Mathematics. The agency indicates that it will need two permanent metal detectors at an expense of \$4,500 each and one portable metal detector for the gym at an expense of \$4,600, for a total non-recurring expense of \$13,600. These metal detectors will require 3.00 FTEs, at a total recurring General Fund expense of \$98,277.

Commission on Higher Education. Since this bill does not alter the responsibilities of CHE, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency.

CHE surveyed the colleges and universities regarding the expenditure impact of this bill. Unless otherwise stated, we used an average installed expense of \$4,000 per metal detector. Please see below for the expenditure impact on the following institutions of higher learning.

The Citadel indicates that this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses by \$1,800,000 for 40 officer FTE positions to staff 20 building entrances for academic buildings and 37 public entrances at athletic fields. We estimate that non-recurring General Fund expenses will total approximately \$228,000 to purchase and install the 57 metal detectors.

Francis Marion University indicates that this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses by approximately \$2,895,000 for staffing 48 public entrances with 1.5 to 2 guards at each entrance. We estimate that non-recurring General Fund expenses will total approximately \$192,000 to purchase and install the 48 metal detectors.

Lander University indicates that this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses by \$4,400,000 for 96 FTEs and 15 part-time personnel to staff its 53 entrances. We estimate that non-recurring General Fund expenses will total approximately \$212,000 to purchase and install the 53 metal detectors.

Winthrop University indicates that this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses by \$6,360,000 for personnel and annual maintenance expenses for the required 119 metal detectors. We estimate non-recurring General Fund expenses to total \$476,000 to purchase and install the 119 metal detectors.

The University of South Carolina (USC) estimates that it will need 3 to 5 metal detectors for each of its 303 buildings. Further, USC estimates that it will need 1 FTE at \$25 per hour for 12 hours each day for 260 days per year to staff each metal detector. Assuming 5 metal detectors per building, for a total of 1,515 detectors, this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses of USC by approximately \$118,170,000 to staff the metal detectors. We estimate that non-recurring General Fund expenses of USC will increase by \$6,060,000 to purchase and install the 1,515 metal detectors.

The expenditure impact on the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) is undetermined at this time. However, the agency indicated that expenses would be in the millions based on the number of entrances at campus buildings and hospitals. We will update this impact statement if MUSC provides a more defined estimate.

In summary, this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses of the responding colleges and universities by approximately \$133,625,000 in FY 2019-20 to staff metal detectors. We estimate that non-recurring General Fund expenses of the responding colleges and universities are expected to total approximately \$7,168,000 for the purchase and installation of metal detectors in FY 2019-20. We will update this impact statement if MUSC provides a more definite estimate on the expenditure impact of this bill.

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education. The agency indicates that in FY 2019-20 this bill will increase recurring General Fund expenses by \$92,278,510 for 1,677 officer and trained security personnel FTEs to staff metal detectors. Further, non-recurring expenses are expected to total \$4,780,000 to purchase 956 metal detectors, at an expense of \$5,000 each, for the 16 technical colleges.

We anticipate that any expenses associated with training for the Office of the Attorney General and SLED can be managed within the agencies' current appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

SDE indicates there will be a local expenditure impact to school districts to implement the provisions of this bill. SDE assumes that there will be one metal detector station at the visitor's entrance to each school and three metal detector stations needed for gymnasiums or stadiums. At \$4,000 per detector, the non-recurring expense to put three detectors per school in each of the state's 1,200 schools will be \$14,400,000. This is a minimum amount, as some schools may require more detectors due to their unique configurations. SDE's estimate assumes that school districts will utilize existing employees and existing resources to staff the detectors, with the assistance of school resource officers or local law enforcement. However, SDE notes that if a district determines additional resources are needed to effectively manage the flow of traffic through the metal detectors, the impact could increase substantially. Utilizing the same methodology employed for state agencies above, 2.5 FTEs will be required to staff one continuous use and two part-time use detectors. At an expense of \$32,579 per FTE, this scenario would have a recurring expense to school districts in the amount of \$97,737,000 in FY 2019-20.

Local Revenue

N/A



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