



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number:	H. 4130	Introduced on February 27, 2019
Author:	W. Newton	
Subject:	DHEC, Hearing Aid Specialists Licensure	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith	
Impact Date:	March 18, 2019 Updated for Additional Agency Response	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will reduce General Fund expenditures of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) by \$4,200 beginning in FY 2019-20 due to the agency being able to administer qualifying examinations directly instead of using a third-party vendor. This fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from the agency.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Updated for Additional Agency Response on March 18, 2019

Introduced on February 27, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill codifies the current practices for the preparation and administration of examinations for licensure of hearing aid specialists and gives DHEC the flexibility to either directly administer the qualifying examination or to facilitate the examination through a third-party. The agency indicates that it currently uses a third-party vendor that charges \$225 for each written examination. Of that fee, \$50 is collected from the applicant and submitted to the vendor for the cost of the examination, and the agency subsidizes the remaining \$175. DHEC has facilitated an average of twenty-four examinations per year over the past six years. Thus, if DHEC chooses to facilitate the examination through a third-party, the agency estimates a reduction in General Fund expenditures by \$4,200 beginning in FY 2019-20. This section of the fiscal impact statement has been updated to include a response from the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Introduced on February 27, 2019

State Expenditure

This bill codifies the current practices for the preparation and administration of examinations for licensure of hearing aid specialists. It also transfers the responsibilities related to continuing

education from the State Commission for Hearing Aid Specialists to DHEC. These responsibilities include approving continuing education programs and verifying proof of continuing education requirements for licensees. The expenditure impact of this bill on DHEC is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

State Revenue

This bill gives DHEC flexibility regarding the collection of examination fees for licensure of hearing aid specialists and grants the agency the ability to impose monetary penalties for violations. The revenue impact of this bill on DHEC is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director