



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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Bill Number: H. 4355 Introduced on March 28, 2019
Author: Fry
Subject: Methadone
Requestor: House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs
RFA Analyst(s): Mitchell
Impact Date: April 10, 2019

Fiscal Impact Summary

The bill outlines requirements for the administration of methadone and other opioid agonist medications. The bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services and the Department of Mental Health, as both agencies are currently in compliance with the provisions of the bill. The bill is not expected to have a local expenditure impact on county hospitals.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 28, 2019

State Expenditure

The bill requires that methadone or any other opioid agonist treatment medication for use in the treatment of opioid use disorder must be administered or dispensed by a practitioner licensed by the State Board of Medical Examiners and registered under state and federal law to administer or dispense opioid drugs, or by an agent of such a practitioner, supervised by or under the order of the licensed practitioner. Licensure requirements for agents are also outlined.

Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS). DAODAS indicates that its detoxification facilities are not licensed as Narcotic Treatment Programs, and therefore do not administer methadone to patients. Further, if a patient chooses methadone as part of their Medication Assisted Treatment, the individual is referred to a licensed Narcotic Treatment Program. As such, the bill has no impact on DAODAS.

Department of Mental Health (DMH). DMH indicates that its mental health centers do not administer methadone to patients in the outpatient setting. DAODAS further indicates that, in the inpatient setting, methadone is administered in the manner described in the bill. The bill will have no impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for DMH, as DMH is in compliance with the provisions of the bill.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

Counties and municipalities were surveyed to determine what, if any, expenditure impact the passage of the bill will have on community hospitals. The counties of Florence and Lancaster provided responses. The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) received no responses from

counties whose community hospitals are not affiliated with larger medical systems, who may be impacted by the bill. However, RFA does not anticipate that conformity with the licensure requirements outlined in the bill will result in additional local expenditures.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director