

# SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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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.

H. 3502 Introduced on January 12, 2021 **Bill Number:** 

Author: Long

Subject: **Emergency Scene Management** House Education and Public Works Requestor:

Griffith and Gardner RFA Analyst(s): Impact Date: February 5, 2021

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Department of Transportation (DOT) because it will not modify the current operations of the agency. While the bill may have a minimal impact on summary court caseloads due to the creation of a new offense, the Judicial Department will manage additional costs associated with the bill's implementation using existing General Fund resources. The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office does not expect a fiscal impact on counties or municipalities.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## **Introduced on January 12, 2021 State Expenditure**

Currently, it is unlawful for a person to interfere with or endanger emergency services personnel who respond to an emergency incident. This bill adds tow truck operators to the list of emergency services personnel.

**Department of Transportation.** DOT reports that the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency because the bill does not operationally impact the department.

Judicial Department. This bill expands the offense of endangering emergency services personnel to include tow truck operators. The department indicates that since a new offense will be created, there is no data with which to estimate the number of summary court hearings or trials that may result from the implementation of the bill. The department expects to manage any increase in costs associated with additional caseloads using existing General Fund resources.

#### **State Revenue**

N/A

#### **Local Expenditure**

Twenty-three counties, the Municipal Association of South Carolina, and the South Carolina Sheriff's Association were contacted for the local expenditure impact of this bill. The York County Sheriff's Office indicates that the bill will have no fiscal impact on its office, and the Saluda Sheriff's Office stated they would need more information before determining a fiscal impact.

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director