



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.

Bill Number:	H. 4579	Prefiled on November 17, 2021
Author:	Gilliard	
Subject:	Notice of Bedbug Infestation	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Gardner	
Impact Date:	December 21, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires that signage be posted in paid lodging facilities and written notice be presented to tenants of rental units or charitable or emergency shelters when there is a known bedbug infestation at such location.

The implementation of this bill will have no expenditure impact as the Judicial Department expects to manage any increase in caseloads within current resources.

Due to the lack of empirical data, including information on the patterns of convictions and judicial discretion in sentencing, the revenue impact of this bill on the General Fund, Other Funds, and local funds is undetermined.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Prefiled on November 17, 2021

State Expenditure

This bill requires paid lodging facilities to conspicuously post a notice of bedbug infestation in any guestroom when the owner, manager, or other responsible party is aware of the infestation. Failure to comply with this provision is a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$300 or imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or both. The bill also requires landlords and other authorized persons to provide written notice of a known bedbug infestation to a prospective tenant prior to the commencement of his tenancy. Failure to comply with this provision entitles a tenant to remedies available under Section 27-40-610. Further, the bill requires agents of charitable or emergency protective shelters to provide written notice of a bedbug infestation to shelter occupants within 24 hours of their arrival at the shelter. Failure to comply with this provision enables a municipality or county in which the shelter is located to obtain injunctive relief.

This bill creates a new misdemeanor offense for failure to post notice of a bedbug infestation at a lodging facility. As this is a new offense, there is no empirical data to estimate the number of additional cases that may be heard in the Court of Common Pleas. The Judicial Department intends to use existing General Fund resources to absorb costs associated with an increase in caseloads. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for the Judicial Department.

State Revenue

Due to the lack of empirical data, including information on the patterns of convictions and judicial discretion in sentencing the increase in fees and fines collected in court due to this bill is undetermined. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds and local funds. This bill has an undetermined increase in revenue for General Funds and Other Funds.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

Due to the lack of empirical data, including information on the patterns of convictions and judicial discretion in sentencing the increase in fees and fines collected in court due to this bill is undetermined. Court fines and fees are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds and local funds. This bill has an undetermined increase in revenue for local funds.



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director