



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:	S. 236	Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author:	Young	
Subject:	Pooling Precincts	
Requestor:	Senate Judiciary	
RFA Analyst(s):	Williams	
Impact Date:	March 22, 2021	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill allows for more pooled precincts in municipal elections by increasing the number of voters required for a voting precinct to have its own polling location from 500 to 3,000 registered voters. It also requires that the voting place of any precinct pooled within a municipality cannot exceed 3,000 registered voters, and pooled polling places cannot be more than 5 miles from the nearest part of any pooled precinct. Due to limited data to estimate the impact of these changes, the expenditure and revenue impact on counties and municipalities resulting from this bill is undetermined.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure & Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure & Revenue

This bill allows for more pooled precincts in municipal elections by increasing the number of registered voters required for a voting precinct to have its own polling location from 500 to 3,000 registered voters. It also requires that the voting place of any precinct pooled within a municipality cannot exceed 3,000 registered voters, an increase from 1,500. Pooled polling places cannot be more than 5 miles from the nearest part of any pooled precinct. The location of voting places for all precincts, including those pooled, must be published in the municipality on the day of the election; if the news is not published daily, then it must be published on the date of publication nearest and prior to the date of election. Election results must also be reported and certified by the individual precinct.

RFA contacted thirty-seven county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) regarding the impact of this bill. MASC indicates that no expenditure increases are expected as a result of this bill. Because no responses were received from the counties surveyed, our office is not able to determine the expenditure or revenue impact of this bill on local governments.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director