



**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.*

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**Bill Number:** S.0441    Introduced on January 12, 2021  
**Author:** Shealy  
**Subject:** Residential Treatment Programs  
**Requestor:** Senate Family and Veterans Services  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Payne  
**Impact Date:** February 12, 2021

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill will not have a fiscal impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds of the Department of Social Services (DSS), as they anticipate they can perform the duties enumerated in this bill using existing appropriations.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

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

##### **State Expenditure**

This bill defines and establishes qualified residential treatment programs as a placement option for children in the custody of DSS. The bill defines a qualified residential treatment program as a childcare institution that has a trauma informed treatment model, registered or licensed nursing staff, licensed by DSS and accredited by an approved organization, and that involves the child's family in the treatment process. The bill prescribes the process by which a determination shall be made for placing a child in a treatment program. The process must include a documented determination that placement in a treatment program is in the best interest of the child, and why the needs of the child cannot be met through placement with a family member or foster home. Within sixty days of the start of placement for a child, the family court shall review the child's case and make a determination, approving or disapproving the placement. DSS is required to submit evidence at subsequent hearings for a child placed in a treatment program demonstrating the placement continues to serve the best interests of the child.

DSS indicates they can perform the duties enumerated in this bill using existing appropriations. Therefore, this bill will not impact the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds of DSS.

##### **State Revenue**

N/A

##### **Local Expenditure & Revenue**

N/A

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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director