



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. 1103	Amended by the Senate on April 5, 2022
Author:	Shealy	
Subject:	Child Identification Kits	
Requestor:	Senate	
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren and Gardner	
Impact Date:	May 2, 2022	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This amended bill requires the State Department of Education (SCDE) to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to be distributed throughout the district or school upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, middle, or high school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to federal, state, tribal, or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

While the bill requires SCDE to provide the kits, the Attorney General's Office may receive funding for this purpose. The Attorney General's Office indicates that the initial cost to implement the provisions of the amended bill is approximately \$2,500,000 in FY 2022-23. This amount includes the cost of the kits, which is estimated at \$2.53 per kit when purchased for all students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, delivery of the kits, and assumes that a kit will be requested for each of the estimated 761,855 students in the public districts and charter schools. The Attorney General's Office anticipates using nonrecurring funds pursuant to Proviso 118.19 of the FY 2022-3 Appropriations Act for the SC Child Id Program to cover the initial cost of the kits. Depending on the amount appropriated, the agency will use litigation funds and funds from private sources to cover any expenses for the initial cost of the kits that exceed the appropriated amount in Proviso 118.19. Ongoing expenses in the second and subsequent years will be the cost of the kits for kindergarten students in the public districts and the charter schools. For reference, there are approximately 49,300 students in kindergarten this school year in the public and charter districts. The cost per kit increases to \$2.83 when purchased for kindergarten students only. This would result in an annual cost of up to \$140,000 in future years.

This amended bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on SCDE as long as the initial costs of the kits are not the responsibility of the agency. SCDE indicates that any administrative costs and expenses to deliver the kits to all school districts and charter schools can be managed within existing appropriations. However, the agency further indicates that if the initial cost of the kits is not covered by the Attorney General's Office, or if additional kits are needed, the agency's General Fund expenses will increase by an undetermined amount to implement the provisions of the amended bill.

This amended bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools since we expect they will be able to adhere to the provisions of the amended bill within existing appropriations.

This amended bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), as it does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

This amended bill will have an undetermined expenditure impact on local school districts. SCDE previously surveyed the regular districts and the charter school districts and received responses from twenty-five districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicated that any expenses could be accomplished within the district's existing budget as long as they are not responsible for the cost of the kits. Six districts indicated varying expenses of an undetermined amount to distribute the kits depending on the number requested.

The amended bill will have no expenditure impact on local law enforcement as long as the kits are only processed in the event of a missing or trafficked child. However, there could be a significant increase in expenses if all kits that are distributed must be processed at once by local law enforcement without an emergency circumstance.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Amended by the Senate on April 5, 2022

State Expenditure

This amended bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to be distributed throughout the district or school upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, middle, or high school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to federal, state, tribal, or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General's Office indicates that they may receive funding for this program and that the initial cost to implement the provisions of the amended bill is approximately \$2,500,000. This includes the cost of the kits, which is estimated at \$2.53 per kit when purchased for all students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, delivery of the kits, and assumes that a kit will be requested for each of the estimated 761,855 students in the public districts and the charter districts. The Attorney General's Office anticipates using nonrecurring funds pursuant to Proviso 118.19 in the FY 2022-23 Appropriations Act for the SC Child Id Program to cover the initial cost of the kits if received. Depending on the amount appropriated, the agency will use litigation funds and funds from private sources to cover any expenses for the initial cost of the kits that exceed the appropriated amount in Proviso 118.19. The agency also indicates that any remaining appropriated funds from Proviso 118.19 will be used for awareness of the SC Child Id Program. Further, ongoing expenses in the second and subsequent years will be the cost of the kits for kindergarten students in the public districts and the charter schools. For reference, there are approximately 49,300 students in kindergarten this school year in the

public and charter districts. The cost per kit increases to \$2.83 when purchased for kindergarten students only. This would result in an annual cost of up to \$140,000 in future years.

State Department of Education. SCDE indicates that the amended bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency as long as the agency does not have to cover the initial costs of the kits. SCDE further indicates that any administrative costs and expenses to deliver the kits to all school districts and charter schools can be managed within existing appropriations. However, the agency indicates that if the initial cost of the kits is not covered by the Attorney General's Office, or if additional kits are needed, the agency's General Fund expenses will increase by an undetermined amount to implement the provisions of the amended bill.

State Agency Schools. We anticipate that this amended bill will have no expenditure impact on the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the School for the Deaf and Blind, or the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School since we expect they will be able to adhere to the provisions of the amended bill within existing appropriations. We will update this impact statement if the agencies provide a different response.

State Law Enforcement Division. This amended bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of SLED. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

As noted above, this amended bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, middle, or high school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to the local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

SCDE previously surveyed the seventy-seven regular districts and the two charter school districts to determine the expenditure impact of the bill and received responses from twenty-five districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicated that any expenses could be accomplished within their existing budget as long as they are not responsible for the cost of the kits. Six districts indicated varying costs of an undetermined amount to distribute the kits. Total costs will depend on the number of parents and legal custodians who request kits. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this amended bill on local school districts is undetermined.

Additionally, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office previously surveyed twenty-three county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) regarding the expenditure impact of the bill on local law enforcement. We received a response from one county and the MASC. The responding county and MASC indicated that the bill would have no expenditure impact as long as the kits are only processed in the event of a missing or trafficked child. The responding entities further indicated that there could be a significant increase in

expenses if all kits that are distributed must be processed by local law enforcement at once without an emergency circumstance.

Local Revenue

N/A

Introduced on March 1, 2022

State Expenditure

This bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to be distributed throughout the district or school upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, or middle school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to federal, state, tribal, or local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

State Department of Education. SCDE indicates that the cost of each kit is \$15. Further, SCDE anticipates being able to manage the cost and administration of the kits within existing appropriations. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency. For reference, if a kit is requested for every public school and charter school student, the total would be approximately \$11,428,000 in FY 2022-23.

State Agency Schools. This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, or the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School since these schools only serve students in high school grades. We anticipate that the School for the Deaf and Blind will be able to adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations. We will update this impact statement if the agency provides a different response.

State Law Enforcement Division. This bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of SLED. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

As noted above, this bill requires SCDE to provide inkless, in-home fingerprint and DNA identification kits to all school districts and open-enrollment charter schools upon request by a parent or legal custodian of any kindergarten, elementary, or middle school student. A parent or legal custodian who receives a fingerprint and DNA identification kit may submit the kit to the local law enforcement to help locate and return a missing or trafficked child.

SCDE surveyed the seventy-seven regular districts and the two charter school districts to determine the expenditure impact of this bill and received responses from twenty-five districts. Nineteen of the responding districts indicate that any expenses could be accomplished within their existing budget as long as SCDE is responsible for the cost of the kits. Six districts indicate

varying costs to distribute the kits. Total costs will depend on the number of parents and legal custodians who request kits. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is undetermined.

Additionally, the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office surveyed twenty-three county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) regarding the expenditure impact of this bill on local law enforcement. We received a response from one county and the MASC. The responding county and MASC indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact as long as the kits are only processed in the event of a missing or trafficked child. The responding entities further indicate that there could be a significant increase in expenses if all kits that are distributed must be processed by local law enforcement at once without an emergency circumstance.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director