



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
**(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS**

*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.*

---

<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3309	Introduced on January 10, 2023
<b>Author:</b>	Gilliam	
<b>Subject:</b>	Seizure Safe Schools Act	
<b>Requestor:</b>	House Education and Public Works	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Wren	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	April 27, 2023 - Updated for Additional Agency Response	

---

### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill requires public schools to develop a seizure action plan for students diagnosed with a seizure disorder. The bill also requires school districts to adopt a policy outlining requirements of a seizure education program and training requirements for all school personnel having direct contact with students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Additionally, the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) must develop and post on its website an informational poster on seizure first aid for public and private schools. Each public school must post at least one poster in a visible, high-traffic area in the school. Further, the State Board of Education must develop a policy regarding seizures for all schools that operate under the control of the board.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE since the development of a poster on seizure first aid can be managed within existing appropriations. Further, the Epilepsy Foundation of America offers a free printable poster that SCDE may be able to share with school districts.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for the Arts and Sciences indicates that it can adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact. Likewise, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact since the school has a staffed medical department versed in all emergencies including seizures. Based upon these responses, we anticipate that any expenses resulting from the bill for the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the School for the Deaf and Blind can be managed within existing resources.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is undetermined due to the varying responses received from the districts. SCDE surveyed the seventy-three regular districts and the three charter school districts and received responses from fifteen districts. Seven of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since they currently adhere to the provisions of the bill. One district indicates that any additional expenses would depend on the number of students who need a seizure action plan and may result in a need to hire additional nursing staff if the number increases significantly. The remaining seven districts indicate that the bill could increase expenses by a range of \$2,500 to \$300,000 for self-study training for principals, teachers, and guidance counselors, training for volunteers, additional school nurses, and for additional staff to oversee the seizure education program.

*This impact statement has been updated to include responses from SCDE and the local school districts.*

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Updated for Additional Agency Response on April 27, 2023**

**Introduced on January 10, 2023**

### **State Expenditure**

This bill requires public schools to develop a seizure action plan for students diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Schools must keep each seizure action plan on file in the office of a school administrator or school nurse and make the plan available to school personnel and, with permission of the parent or guardian, a volunteer responsible for the supervision of the student. The bill also requires school districts to adopt a policy outlining requirements of a seizure education program and training requirements for all school personnel having direct contact with students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Each school district must adopt a policy requiring all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers in the school to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials each school year and must select the materials for study.

Additionally, SCDE must develop an informational poster on seizure first aid and must provide it online to all public and private schools at no charge. Each public school must display at least one poster in a visible, high-traffic area in the school. Further, the State Board of Education must develop a policy regarding seizures for all schools that operate under the control of the board.

**S.C. Department of Education.** SCDE indicates that the development of a poster on seizure first aid can be managed within existing appropriations. Further, the Epilepsy Foundation of America offers a free printable poster that SCDE may be able to share with school districts. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE. *This section of the impact statement has been updated to include a response from SCDE.*

**State Agency Schools.** The Governor's School for the Arts and Sciences indicates that it can adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact. Likewise, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact since the school has a staffed medical department versed in all emergencies including seizures. Based upon these responses, we anticipate that any expenses resulting from the bill for the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the School for the Deaf and Blind can be managed within existing resources.

### **State Revenue**

N/A

### **Local Expenditure**

This bill requires public schools to develop a seizure action plan for students diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Schools must keep each seizure action plan on file in the office of a school administrator or school nurse and make the plan available to school personnel and, with permission of the parent or guardian, a volunteer responsible for the supervision of the student. The bill also requires school districts to adopt a policy outlining requirements of a seizure education program and training requirements for all school personnel having direct contact with students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Each school district must adopt a policy requiring all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers in the school to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials each school year and must select the materials for study. Additionally, SCDE must develop an informational poster on seizure first aid and must provide it online to all public and private schools at no charge. Each public school must display at least one poster in a visible, high-traffic area in the school.

SCDE surveyed the seventy-three regular districts and the three charter school districts and received responses from fifteen districts. Seven of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since they currently adhere to the provisions of the bill. One district indicates that any additional expenses would depend on the number of students who need a seizure action plan and may result in a need to hire additional nursing staff if the number increases significantly. The remaining seven districts indicate that the bill could increase expenses by a range of \$2,500 to \$300,000 for self-study training for principals, teachers, and guidance counselors, training for volunteers, additional school nurses, and for additional staff to oversee the seizure education program. Due to the varying responses, the expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is undetermined. *This section of the impact statement has been updated to include responses from the local school districts.*

### **Local Revenue**

N/A

### **Introduced on January 10, 2023**

#### **State Expenditure**

This bill requires public schools to develop a seizure action plan for students diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Schools must keep each seizure action plan on file in the office of a school administrator or school nurse and make the plan available to school personnel and, with permission of the parent or guardian, a volunteer responsible for the supervision of the student. The bill also requires school districts to adopt a policy outlining requirements of a seizure education program and training requirements for all school personnel having direct contact with students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Each school district must adopt a policy requiring all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers in the school to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials each school year and must select the materials for study.

Additionally, SCDE must develop an informational poster on seizure first aid and must provide it online to all public and private schools at no charge. Each public school must display at least one poster in a visible, high-traffic area in the school. Further, the State Board of Education

must develop a policy regarding seizures for all schools that operate under the control of the board.

**S.C. Department of Education.** The expenditure impact of this bill on SCDE is pending, contingent upon a response.

**State Agency Schools.** The Governor's School for the Arts and Sciences indicates that it can adhere to the provisions of the bill within existing appropriations. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact. Likewise, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact since the school has a staffed medical department versed in all emergencies including seizures. Based upon these responses, we anticipate that any expenses resulting from the bill for the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the School for the Deaf and Blind can be managed within existing resources.

### **State Revenue**

N/A

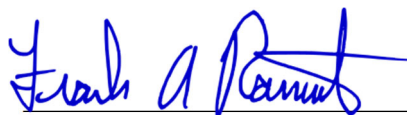
### **Local Expenditure**

This bill requires public schools to develop a seizure action plan for students diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Schools must keep each seizure action plan on file in the office of a school administrator or school nurse and make the plan available to school personnel and, with permission of the parent or guardian, a volunteer responsible for the supervision of the student. The bill also requires school districts to adopt a policy outlining requirements of a seizure education program and training requirements for all school personnel having direct contact with students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Each school district must adopt a policy requiring all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers in the school to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials each school year and must select the materials for study. Additionally, SCDE must develop an informational poster on seizure first aid and must provide it online to all public and private schools at no charge. Each public school must display at least one poster in a visible, high-traffic area in the school.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is pending, contingent upon a response.

### **Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director