



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. 4609	Introduced on January 9, 2024
Author:	Hixon	
Subject:	Golf Carts	
Requestor:	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
RFA Analyst(s):	Bryant	
Impact Date:	February 29, 2024	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill provides that in counties with a population of no less than 150,000 and no more than 250,000 persons, a municipality may enact an ordinance to allow golf carts to operate in designated areas within their jurisdiction at night. Previously, only municipalities with jurisdiction over a barrier island were authorized to enact such ordinances. Further, if the designated area is not within the jurisdiction of a municipality, the county in which the designated area is located may enact an ordinance allowing for the operation of a golf cart at night under certain conditions. For reference, according to the 2020 U.S. Census, Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties have populations between 150,000 and 250,000 persons.

The Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) contacted all county governments and the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) regarding the expenditure impact of this bill and received a response from MASC. MASC indicates that this bill may increase municipal expenses if a qualifying municipality decides to enact an ordinance to permit night driving of golf carts and experiences an increase in the number of golf-cart related calls requiring assistance from first responders. However, MASC notes that any municipality that enacts such an ordinance may choose to repeal the ordinance and prohibit or limit night driving as appropriate. Due to the permissive nature of the bill, the expenditure impact on local governments is undetermined and will vary by locality.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 9, 2024

State Expenditure

N/A

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

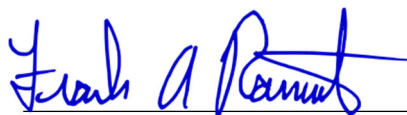
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Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director