



**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. 0873    Introduced on January 9, 2024  
**Author:** McLeod  
**Subject:** Judicial Qualifications  
**Requestor:** Senate Judiciary  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Wren and Miller  
**Impact Date:** January 26, 2024

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to Section 15, Article V of the State Constitution to specify that no person may be elected as the Chief Justice, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, or as a judge of the Court of Appeals who has not previously served as a judge of a court of record in the state. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election.

This joint resolution is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the State Election Commission since we anticipate that any expenses associated with the additional responsibilities will be minimal and can be managed with existing staff and within existing appropriations. We will update this impact statement if the agency provides a different response.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on January 9, 2024**

##### **State Expenditure**

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to Section 15, Article V of the State Constitution to specify that no person may be elected as the Chief Justice, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, or as a judge of the Court of Appeals who has not previously served as a judge of a court of record in the state. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election.

Based on responses to similar legislation, we anticipate that any expenses associated with the additional responsibilities from this joint resolution will be minimal and can be managed with existing staff and within existing appropriations. Therefore, this resolution is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the State Election Commission. We will update this impact statement if the agency provides a different response.

##### **State Revenue**

N/A

##### **Local Expenditure and Local Revenue**

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director