

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. 3292 Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Golf Carts
Requestor:	House Education and Public Works
RFA Analyst(s):	Bryant
Impact Date:	February 4, 2025

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill specifies that all municipalities in all counties may enact an ordinance to allow golf carts to operate in designated areas within their jurisdiction at night. Currently, only municipalities located in counties with a population between 150,000 and 250,000 persons and jurisdiction over a barrier island are 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 such an ordinance.

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 five counties and MASC. Four of the responding counties indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. However, one county noted that allowing golf carts on the road at night may increase the number of accidents. The remaining county indicates that if the county were to enact such an ordinance, expenses may increase due to additional calls for service. MASC previously indicated on similar legislation that the 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 will vary by locality.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025 State Expenditure N/A

State Revenue N/A

Local Expenditure

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Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director