



# 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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<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3529	Introduced on January 14, 2025
<b>Subject:</b>	Family Court Judges, Additional	
<b>Requestor:</b>	House Judiciary	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Boggs	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	January 31, 2025	

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### Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill creates three new family court judge seats. One seat each in the ninth, the eleventh, and the fourteenth circuit. The nomination process for these judges may not begin until funding for these additional judges is appropriated.

Judicial anticipates this bill will result in an increase in General Fund expenditures of \$1,800,000 and 9.0 new FTEs beginning in the year in which the General Assembly appropriates funding for the additional judges. This includes three family court judges, with a salary for each of \$211,849 and fringe of \$154,711, three administrative assistants, with a salary for each of \$44,000 and fringe of \$20,240; and three court reporters, with a salary for each of \$70,000 and fringe of \$32,200. The remaining \$201,000 will be used for supplies, monthly allowances for the judges, and other general operating costs.

### Explanation of Fiscal Impact

#### Introduced on January 14, 2025

##### State Expenditure

This bill creates three new family court judge seats. One seat each in the ninth, the eleventh, and the fourteenth circuit. The nomination process for these judges may not begin until funding for these additional judges is appropriated.

Judicial anticipates the need for 9.0 additional FTEs due to this bill. This includes three family court judges, with a salary for each of \$211,849 and fringe of \$154,711, three administrative assistants, with a salary for each of \$44,000 and fringe of \$20,240; and three court reporters, with a salary for each of \$70,000 and fringe of \$32,200, totaling \$1,599,000 annually. The remaining \$201,000 will be used for supplies, monthly allowances for the judges, and other general operating costs. Therefore, this bill will result in an increase in General Fund expenditures of \$1,800,000 annually beginning in the year in which the General Assembly appropriates funding for the additional judges. Judicial will request a General Fund appropriation increase to cover these expenses.

##### State Revenue

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director