

## 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. 3814 Introduced on January 28, 2025

Subject: Surface Water Study Committee

Requestor: House Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs

RFA Analyst(s): Griffith

Impact Date: February 18, 2025

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This joint resolution expands the scope of the Surface Water Study Committee, created in Proviso 117.184 in Act 226 of 2024, to include a study of the current state of groundwater in the state, as well as other topics related to surface water and groundwater. This resolution also extends the due date of the study committee's report from March 1, 2025, to March 2, 2026.

The Department of Environmental Services (DES) indicates that there is no expenditure impact to the agency, as the resolution does not fiscally or operationally impact DES.

The House of Representatives and the Senate report that any expenditures related to altering the responsibilities of the Surface Water Study Committee can be managed within existing appropriations. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to either legislative body.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## Introduced on January 28, 2025 State Expenditure

This joint resolution expands the scope of the Surface Water Study Committee, created in Proviso 117.184 in Act 226 of 2024, to include a study of the current state of groundwater in the state, as well as other topics related to surface water and groundwater. This resolution also extends the due date of the study committee's report from March 1, 2025, to March 2, 2026.

**Department of Environmental Services.** The Surface Water Study Committee was directed to consult with DES, among other organizations and agencies, to complete the work of the committee. Expanding the scope of the study committee will not fiscally or operationally impact DES. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to DES.

The Senate and the House of Representatives. This joint resolution may alter the responsibilities of the House and Senate representatives appointed to the Surface Water Study Committee. Both legislative bodies indicate that any expenditures related to the study committee can be managed within existing appropriations. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to either legislative body.

**State Revenue** 

N/A

**Local Expenditure** 

N/A

**Local Revenue** 

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director