

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. 3931 Introduced on February 6, 2025

Subject: Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit Application

Requestor: House Labor, Commerce, and Industry

RFA Analyst(s): Griffith

Impact Date: March 28, 2025

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill amends the time frame in which the Department of Environmental Services (DES) must act upon an application for a Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit. Current language requires DES to act within ninety days of the permit filing, unless the permit is for minor development activities, in which case DES must act within thirty days of the permit filing. This bill requires the agency to act within ninety days of determining the application to be administratively complete, or within thirty days of determining the application to be administratively complete if the application is for minor development activities. If DES requests additional information from the applicant, the request must be made within fifteen days after the conclusion of the public notice period. If the request is not made within the fifteen-day period, the application shall be considered administratively complete.

DES anticipates that changes to processing Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit applications can be made with existing resources. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to DES.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 6, 2025 State Expenditure

This bill amends the time frame in which DES must act upon an application for a Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit Application. Current language requires DES to act within ninety days of the permit filing, unless the permit is for minor development activities, in which case DES must act within thirty days of the permit filing. This bill requires the agency to act within ninety days of determining the application to be administratively complete, or within thirty days of determining the application to be administratively complete if the application is for minor development activities. If DES requests additional information from the applicant, the request must be made within fifteen days after the conclusion of the public notice period. If the request is not made within the fifteen-day period, the application shall be considered administratively complete.

This bill provides minor changes that will affect the processing of Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit applications. However, DES anticipates that the changes can be made with existing resources. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to DES.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director