



# 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. 4163	Introduced on March 6, 2025
<b>Subject:</b>	South Carolina High School Athletic Association	
<b>Requestor:</b>	House Education and Public Works	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Bryant	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	April 22, 2025	

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### Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill establishes the South Carolina High School Athletic Association to promote, facilitate, assist, and govern interscholastic athletic programs and events and provides for the purpose, functions, organization, and governance of the association. The bill also establishes a Board of Directors for the association that is composed of eleven individuals who are not current members of the General Assembly. Additionally, the bill includes provisions concerning home school students, private school students, transfer students, and appeals. The bill also specifies that public schools, including charter schools, may not join or affiliate with any other entity within the state for the purpose of governing, sanctioning, or operating interscholastic athletic programs.

The expenditure impact related to compensation for the eleven board members is undetermined. The bill specifies that members of the association may be paid per diem, mileage, and subsistence as established by the board not to exceed the amounts provided by law for state boards, committees, and commissions. Pursuant to the FY 2024-25 Appropriations Act, board members are entitled to per diem of \$50 per day, mileage reimbursement at the rate established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of \$0.70 per mile, and subsistence as determined by the appointing body. The actual compensation amounts will depend upon the amounts established by the board and the number of meetings held.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE), the House of Representatives, or the Senate, as they anticipate that the requirements of the bill can be managed with existing appropriations.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts will vary. SCDE surveyed the seventy-two regular school districts and three charter school districts and received responses from seven districts. Three of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. One district anticipates a minimal impact due to costs associated with travel for training or meetings. One district anticipates that this bill will increase expenses by an amount up to \$165,000 for additional staff, including a coordinator and assistant to manage the implementation of the provisions of the bill and keep records, estimated annual dues, and potential legal costs. The remaining two districts indicate that the expenditure impact is currently undetermined.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Introduced on March 6, 2025**

### **State Expenditure**

This bill establishes the South Carolina High School Athletic Association to promote, facilitate, assist, and govern interscholastic athletic programs and events and provides for the purpose, functions, organization, and governance of the association. The bill also establishes a Board of Directors for the association that is composed of eleven individuals who are not current members of the General Assembly as follows:

- one member appointed by the State Superintendent of Education who shall serve as the chair;
- one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- one member appointed by the Chair of the House Education and Public Works Committee;
- one member appointed by the Leader of the House Majority Caucus;
- one member appointed by the Leader of the House Minority Caucus;
- one member appointed by the President of the Senate;
- one member appointed by the Chair of the Senate Education Committee;
- one member appointed by the Leader of the Senate Majority Caucus;
- one member appointed by the Leader of the Senate Minority Caucus; and
- two members appointed by the Governor, one of which must be recommended by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators.

The bill also specifies that the association must allow existing private and independent schools that are members of the South Carolina High School League to join and participate in a sports program in the same manner as public schools. The association must also guarantee that an athletic team of a South Carolina home school that is a member of a home school athletic association may not be denied access to preseason and regular season interscholastic athletics based solely on its status as a home school athletic team. This bill further specifies that students who attend a school outside of their attendance zone may immediately participate in interscholastic competitions if they are otherwise academically eligible and certain specified conditions are met. Additionally, the bill establishes a process by which appeals are made to a third-body appellate panel and requires the association to establish a procedure for emergency appeals to be held and decided upon in an expedited manner if the normal appellate process would prohibit the participation of a student, team, program, or school in an athletic event. Lastly, the bill specifies that public schools, including charter schools, may not join or affiliate with any other entity within the state for the purpose of governing, sanctioning, or operating interscholastic athletic programs.

The expenditure impact related to compensation for the eleven board members is undetermined. The bill specifies that members of the board may be paid per diem, mileage, and subsistence as established by the board not to exceed the amounts provided by law for state boards, committees, and commissions. Pursuant to the FY 2024-25 Appropriations Act, board members are entitled to per diem of \$50 per day, mileage reimbursement at the rate established by the Internal Revenue

Service (IRS) of \$0.70 per mile, and subsistence as determined by the appointing body. The actual compensation amounts will depend upon the amounts established by the board and the number of meetings held.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE, the House of Representatives, or the Senate, as they anticipate that the requirements of the bill can be managed with existing appropriations.

### **State Revenue**

N/A

### **Local Expenditure**

This bill establishes the South Carolina High School Athletic Association to promote, facilitate, assist, and govern interscholastic athletic programs and events and provides for the purpose, functions, organization, and governance of the association. The bill also establishes a Board of Directors for the association that is composed of eleven individuals who are not current members of the General Assembly. The bill also specifies that the association must allow existing private and independent schools that are members of the South Carolina High School League to join and participate in a sports program in the same manner as public schools. The association must also guarantee that an athletic team of a South Carolina home school that is a member of a home school athletic association may not be denied access to preseason and regular season interscholastic athletics based solely on its status as a home school athletic team. This bill further specifies that students who attend a school outside of their attendance zone may immediately participate in interscholastic competitions if they are otherwise academically eligible and certain specified conditions are met. Additionally, the bill establishes a process by which appeals are made to a third-body appellate panel and requires the association to establish a procedure for emergency appeals to be held and decided upon in an expedited manner if the normal appellate process would prohibit the participation of a student, team, program, or school in an athletic event. Lastly, the bill specifies that public schools, including charter schools, may not join or affiliate with any other entity within the state for the purpose of governing, sanctioning, or operating interscholastic athletic programs.

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### **Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director