

# 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. 4337 Introduced on April 9, 2025

Subject: Subpoena Powers Requestor: House Judiciary

RFA Analyst(s): Gardner

Impact Date: April 14, 2025

### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill grants subpoena powers to the Legislative Audit Council (LAC) in auditing state agencies, authorizes the LAC to apply to the circuit court for orders to hold individuals in contempt of court for failure or refusal to provide requested documentation, and specifies that state agencies must provide readily available records upon request. A person failing to comply with these provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year.

Judicial and the LAC report this bill will have no expenditure impact because the agencies will administer policies resulting from the bill with the use of existing staff and resources.

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, and local revenue due to the potential increase in fines collected by the court.

# **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

## Introduced on April 9, 2025 State Expenditure

This bill grants subpoena powers to the LAC in auditing state agencies, authorizes the LAC to apply to the circuit court for orders to hold individuals in contempt of court for failure or refusal to provide requested documentation, and specifies that state agencies must provide readily available records upon request. A person failing to comply with these provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year.

Judicial and the LAC report this bill will have no expenditure impact because the agencies will administer policies resulting from the bill with the use of existing staff and resources.

#### **State Revenue**

This bill may result in an increase in the amount of fines collected by the court. Court fines are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined increase to the General Fund and Other Funds revenue due to the increase in fine collections by the court.

#### **Local Expenditure**

This bill may result in an increase in the amount of fines collected by the court. Court fines are distributed to the General Fund, Other Funds and local funds. Therefore, RFA anticipates this bill may result in an undetermined increase to local revenue due to the increase in fine collections by the court.

#### **Local Revenue**

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director