



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:	S. 0135	Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Pledge	
Requestor:	Senate Education	
RFA Analyst(s):	Bryant	
Impact Date:	March 12, 2025	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires pupils in each school district to salute the United States flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance every school day.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) since it does not alter the responsibilities of the department.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that this bill will have no expenditure impact, as they can manage the provisions of the bill with existing appropriations. Based upon these responses, we do not anticipate that the bill will have an expenditure impact for the School for the Deaf and the Blind.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is undetermined. SCDE surveyed the seventy-two regular school districts and three charter school districts and received responses from twenty-four districts. Twenty-one of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. However, one district reports that expenses may increase if the districts are required to have a flag in every classroom, as they currently use smart boards to display a picture of the flag. The remaining three districts note that there is a potential for legal costs by requiring pupils to salute the United States flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025

State Expenditure

This bill requires pupils in each school district to salute the United States flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance every school day. Pupils who are children of accredited representatives of foreign governments to whom the United States government extends diplomatic immunity are not required to render the salute and pledge but are required to show full respect to the flag while the pledge is being given by standing at attention, with boys removing hats, hoods, or head coverings.

S.C. Department of Education. This bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE since it does not alter the responsibilities of the department.

State Agency Schools. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, and the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School indicate that this bill will have no expenditure impact, as they can manage the provisions of the bill with existing appropriations. Based upon these responses, we do not anticipate that the bill will have an expenditure impact for the School for the Deaf and the Blind.

State Revenue

N/A

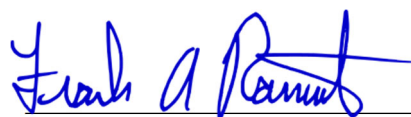
Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director