



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
(803)734-0640 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

Bill Number: H. 4727 Introduced on January 25, 2018
Author: White
Subject: Act No. 200, Conservation Bank Trust Fund
Requestor: House Ways and Means
RFA Analyst(s): Wren
Impact Date: February 2, 2018

Estimate of Fiscal Impact

	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
State Expenditure		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Other and Federal	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Equivalent Position(s)	0.00	0.00
State Revenue		
General Fund	See Below	\$0
Other and Federal	See Below	\$0
Local Expenditure	\$0	\$0
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds since the bill requires the South Carolina Conservation Bank (Conservation Bank) to perform activities within the normal course of agency business. Proviso 53.1 of FY 2017-18 suspended the provisions of Section 12-24-95, which directs \$0.25 of the \$1.30 state deed recording fee to the Conservation Bank Trust Fund. Additionally, Section 12-24-95 was scheduled to be repealed July 1, 2018. The current General Fund forecast includes this revenue.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 25, 2018

State Expenditure

This bill restructures the fourteen-member board of the Conservation Bank by including the Secretary of Commerce as a board member and provides that the Governor appoint two, instead of three members, from the state at large. The bill also extends voting privileges to certain members and prohibits certain members from serving as chairman. The bill requires the Conservation Bank to develop a conservation prioritization map by July 1, 2018. Additionally, the bill prohibits the Conservation Bank from awarding a grant or loan unless the funds for the grant or loan are in the trust fund at the time of the award. Also, the conservation criteria must include the value of the proposal for access to the public and require certain access disclosures on a grant or loan application. The bill also prohibits the purchase of a conservation easement for more than \$500,000.

The South Carolina Conservation Bank indicates that this bill requires the department to perform activities within the normal course of agency business. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds.

State Revenue

This bill restructures the fourteen-member board of the Conservation Bank by including the Secretary of Commerce as a board member and provides that the Governor appoint two, instead of three members from the state at large. The bill also extends voting privileges to certain members and prohibits certain members from serving as chairman. The bill requires the Conservation Bank to develop a conservation prioritization map by July 1, 2018. Additionally, the bill prohibits the Conservation Bank from awarding a grant or loan unless the funds for the grant or loan are in the trust fund at the time of the award. Also, the conservation criteria must include the value of the proposal for access to the public and to require certain access disclosures on a grant or loan application. The bill also prohibits the purchase of a conservation easement for more than \$500,000.

Additionally, the bill repeals Section 12-24-95, which directs \$0.25 of the \$1.30 state deed recording fee to the South Carolina Conservation Bank Trust Fund. Also, this bill repeals Section 7 of Act 200 of 2002, which relates to the requirement to periodically reauthorize the Conservation Bank Trust Fund.

Proviso 53.1 of FY 2017-18 suspended the provisions of Section 12-24-95, which directs \$0.25 of the \$1.30 state deed recording fee to the Conservation Bank Trust Fund. Additionally, Section 12-24-95 was scheduled to be repealed July 1, 2018. Based upon the November 2017 General Fund forecast by the Board of Economic Advisors, \$0.25 of the \$1.30 of the state deed recording fee will total approximately \$20,632,000 in FY 2018-19. The current General Fund forecast includes this revenue.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director