



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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<b>Bill Number:</b>	H. 3157	Introduced on January 8, 2019
<b>Author:</b>	Parks	
<b>Subject:</b>	Genetic Counselors	
<b>Requestor:</b>	House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	A. Martin and Gardner	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	January 24, 2019	

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill will increase Other Fund expenditures for the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) by \$45,217 in FY 2019-20 and \$43,867 each year thereafter for the addition of 1 FTE. Due to several additional factors, total Other Funds expenditures are undetermined.

This bill will increase Other Funds revenue by an undetermined amount due to the issuance of additional licenses. This bill will increase General Fund revenue by at least \$4,522 in FY 2019-20 and \$4,387 each year thereafter because LLR is required to remit an amount equal to 10 percent of board expenditures to the General Fund.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Administrative Law Court (ALC) because the agency will administer policies resulting from the bill with the use of existing staff and resources.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### **Introduced on January 8, 2019**

#### **State Expenditure**

**Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.** This bill requires anyone engaged in the practice of genetic counseling to obtain a license from the State Board of Medical Examiners. The board will be responsible for all activities related to the licensing, regulation, and disciplinary oversight of Genetic Counselors. According to the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NGSC), there are currently 45 Genetic Counselors practicing in South Carolina. NGSC estimates an additional 30 to 60 out-of-state counselors will be providing services to South Carolina constituents via telemedicine. These counselors will also need to be licensed by the board.

LLR will require 1 additional Program Assistant to assist with the day-to-day activities of the board associated with licensure and administrative functions directly related to this program. The salary and fringe benefits for 1 additional FTE are expected to total \$43,867. The associated non-recurring costs for infrastructure and technological requirements for this position are expected to be \$1,350. Therefore, this bill will increase Other Funds expenditures by \$45,217 in FY 2019-20 and \$43,867 each year thereafter.

This bill creates the Genetic Counselors Committee. The committee will serve as an advisory committee for the State Board of Medical Examiners, which is under the regulation of LLR. The

committee will be composed of five members and will meet annually. Additional meetings may be held as necessary. Committee members are entitled to a per diem of \$35 and travel reimbursement at the rate of 58 cents per mile. LLR is unable to predict the total number of meetings required and the travel costs associated with these meetings. Therefore, the expenditure impact on Other Funds is undetermined.

This bill will require additional meetings of the board for the purposes of regulating and administering this program. Board members are entitled to a per diem of \$35, and mileage reimbursement of 58 cents per mile. In addition, committee meetings require a court reporter at a cost of \$2,156 per meeting. LLR is unable to predict the number of additional board meetings that will be required as a result of this bill. In addition, associated travel costs are unknown. Therefore, the expenditure impact on Other Funds is undetermined.

The level of activity required of the board cannot be determined because total demand for Genetic Counselor licenses is unknown. Therefore, the expenditure impact on Other Funds is undetermined. However, LLR is authorized to adjust licensure fees biennially to ensure that revenue is sufficient to cover these expenses. There will be no expenditure impact on the General Fund or Federal Funds.

**Administrative Law Court.** This bill allows LLR and the board to petition an administrative law judge for injunctive relief against a person violating this chapter. The ALC has indicated that the agency will administer policies resulting from the bill with the use of existing staff and resources.

#### **State Revenue**

**Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.** This bill allows LLR to collect a fee for licenses issued and renewed for Genetic Counselors. LLR is required, pursuant to Section 40-1-50(D), to adjust fees biennially to ensure that fee revenue is sufficient, but not excessive, to cover expenses of each respective board. The fee amount for this license has not yet been determined. In addition, LLR cannot predict the demand for licenses as a result of this bill. Therefore, the revenue generated by application fees is undetermined.

In addition, the licensure board for Genetic Counselors falls under the Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing. Pursuant to Proviso 81.3 of the FY 2018-19 Appropriations Act, LLR is required to remit annually to the General Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of expenditures. Therefore, this bill will increase General Fund revenue by at least \$4,522 in FY 2019-20 and \$4,387 each year thereafter due to expenditures for additional personnel. However, because the total increase of expenditures is unknown, the total revenue increase to the General Fund is undetermined.

#### **Local Expenditure**

N/A

#### **Local Revenue**

N/A



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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director