



**SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**  
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<b>Bill Number:</b>	S. 0181	Introduced on January 8, 2019
<b>Author:</b>	McElveen	
<b>Subject:</b>	Adoption	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Family and Veterans Services	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Mitchell and Gardner	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	February 15, 2019	

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

The bill will have no impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Judicial Department, as any additional expenditures related to an increase in family court caseloads can be managed within the existing appropriations.

The bill will have no impact on the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Department of Social Services, as the bill does not materially alter the expenditures of the department.

### **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

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

#### **State Expenditure**

This bill permits a biological parent or parents consenting to or relinquishing a child for adoption to provide their medical history to the Department of Social Services. If a biological parent chooses to provide their medical history, the Department of Social Services must disclose the information to the adoptive parent. If a medical history is provided, it shall also be deposited with the family court that enters a final decree of adoption. Further, the medical history may be disclosed to the adoptee upon reaching the age of majority or under circumstances prior if it is in the adoptee's best interest.

**Judicial Department.** The Judicial Department indicates that it would be necessary for an adoptee to file an action in family court in order to obtain access to the medical history of a biological parent or parents. The department reports that the bill creates a new cause of action, and that data is not available to estimate the impact on family court caseloads. However, any additional expenditures as a result of the bill can be managed within existing General Fund appropriations. As such, the bill will have no expenditure impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Judicial Department.

**Department of Social Services.** The Department of Social Services indicates that the storage and disclosure of medical histories as presented in the bill does not materially alter the agency's expenditures. As such, the bill will have no impact to the General Fund, Other Funds, or Federal Funds for the Department of Social Services.

#### **State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A



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Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director