



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

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. 3338 Introduced on January 12, 2021
Author: G. R. Smith
Subject: Reinforcing College Education on America's Constitutional Heritage Act (REACH)
Requestor: House Education and Public Works
RFA Analyst(s): A. Martin and Wren
Impact Date: February 25, 2021

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires all public high schools to give instruction on the Civil Rights Act of 1964, in addition to other areas of study, and for all students to pass an examination on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in order to receive a certificate of graduation. Also, the bill requires all associate and baccalaureate degree program students to complete studies on the Civil Rights Act of 1964, in addition to other areas of study.

The bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Department of Education (SDE) since instruction on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is currently in social studies standards and is covered in U.S. History. Additionally, further development of items needed to measure the Civil Rights Act of 1964 can be completed within current appropriations.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools. The Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and the Governor's School for Arts and Humanities indicate that the bill will have no impact since their students currently receive instruction in the subjects required in this bill.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) since any increase in expenses can be managed within current appropriations.

The state's public research and comprehensive institutions of higher learning (IHL) were surveyed by CHE for their response to this bill. A response was not received concerning this bill. However, the institutions previously provided the fiscal impact for S. 38, which requires similar curriculum changes, and their anticipated expenditure responses have been included here for your information. It is our interpretation that H. 3338 will have a similar impact; however, we will update this fiscal impact statement if additional information becomes available. S. 38, as introduced on January 12, 2021, will increase expenditures for public research and comprehensive IHLs by \$1,252,205 in FY 2021-22, \$2,540,843 in FY 2022-23, \$2,468,843 in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25, and \$2,148,491 each year thereafter, for course development and 32 additional FTEs required to deliver instruction and provide administrative support.

This bill will increase General Fund expenditures for technical schools by \$7,144,842 in FY 2022-23 and \$6,957,342 each year thereafter for course development, equipment, and 75 additional FTEs for course instruction.

The bill will have no expenditure impact on local school districts since instruction on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is currently included in the social studies standards.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021

State Expenditure

The bill requires all public high schools to give instruction in the essentials of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, in addition to the current requirements of instruction on the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers, including the study of American institutions and ideals. Additionally, the bill repeals Section 59-29-140 relating to the enforcement of the program of study of the United States Constitution by the State Superintendent of Education.

The bill also requires undergraduate students in all public IHLs to successfully complete at least three semester credit hours of instruction in the essentials of the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Federalist Papers, and the study of American institutions and history. Further, no public institution of higher learning may grant a certificate of graduation for any associate's or baccalaureate degree program to any student unless the student successfully completes the required coursework or a qualifying advanced placement or dual credit course.

CHE must annually collect information necessary to ensure that each public institution of higher learning is in compliance with the provisions of the bill. Such information must be reported annually to the General Assembly.

State Department of Education. SDE indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency since instruction on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is currently in social studies standards and is covered in U.S. History. Additionally, further development of items needed to measure the Civil Rights Act of 1964 can be managed within current appropriations.

State Agency Schools. The Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and the Governor's School for Arts and Humanities indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since their students currently receive instruction in the specified areas of study. Based upon these responses, we do not anticipate that this bill will impact the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe or the School for the Deaf and Blind. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on the state agency schools.

Commission on Higher Education. This bill creates additional curriculum requirements for associate and baccalaureate programs at IHLs. CHE must collect the information necessary to ensure these requirements are being met and report annually to the General Assembly. CHE will

rely on SBTCE to report information concerning applicable programs offered at the technical colleges. CHE indicates that any expenses resulting from the bill can be managed within current appropriations. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on CHE.

This bill creates additional curriculum requirements for students pursuing an associate's or baccalaureate degree. CHE received no response from the public IHLs concerning the expenditure impact of this bill. However, CHE previously surveyed the IHLs to determine the expenditure impact of S. 38 as introduced on January 12, 2021, which creates a curriculum change with similar complexity. S.38 contains many of the same requirements but requires the teaching of different documents. For your information, a summary of those responses is provided below. Please see the fiscal impact for S. 38 for more detailed information.

The IHLs anticipate that S. 38 would require modification or expansion of current course offerings. In addition, some IHLs will require additional support staff, equipment, and supplies. Additional FTEs will be required to teach new courses or additional sections of existing courses. Some IHLs indicated that they would provide training to existing FTEs to prepare them to teach the required material. In total, S. 38 will increase expenditures for IHLs by an estimated \$1,252,205 in FY 2021-22, \$2,540,843 in FY 2022-23, \$2,468,843 in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25, and \$2,148,491 each year thereafter, for course development and 32 additional FTEs required to deliver instruction and provide administrative support.

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education. This bill creates additional curriculum requirements for students pursuing an associate's or baccalaureate degree. SBTCE indicates that this bill will require \$187,500 for course development, equipment, and technology expenses. In addition, this bill will require \$6,957,342 in salary and fringe for an additional 75 FTEs to administer course instruction. It is anticipated that these expenditures will be funded by General Funds. Therefore, this bill will increase General Fund expenditures by \$7,144,842 in FY 2022-23 and \$6,957,342 each year thereafter. SBTCE also indicated that some degree programs do not currently require a social sciences course that could incorporate the new curriculum. Therefore, this bill may require an additional three-hour course for these programs.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

The bill requires all public high schools to give instruction in the essentials of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, in addition to the current requirements of instruction on the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Federalist Papers, including the study of American institutions and ideals.

Sections 59-29-120 and 59-29-130 currently require high school students to receive instruction in the aforementioned studies. Additionally, SDE indicates that instruction on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is currently in the social studies standards. Therefore, the bill will have no expenditure impact on local school districts.

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director