

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.

Introduced on January 12, 2021 **Bill Number:** H. 3518

Willis Author:

Subject: Medical Ethics and Diversity Act

House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Requestor:

Griffith RFA Analyst(s):

Impact Date: January 27, 2021

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the General Fund, Federal Fund, or Other Funds of the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) because implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the bill can be managed within the agency's existing appropriations.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 12, 2021 **State Expenditure**

This bill gives a medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer to right to abstain from participating in or paying for any health care service which violates the party's conscience. In addition, no medical practitioner may be discriminated against due to providing an act or omission the practitioner believes is a violation of the bill's provisions; testifying in a proceeding concerning such a violation; assisting or participating in such a proceeding; or disclosing any information the practitioner believes evinces a violation of any law, rule, regulation, standard of care, or other ethical guidelines or believes evinces gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a danger to public health or safety.

DHEC is responsible for the regulation of health care institutions and practices. The agency indicates that the bill will have no impact on its General Fund, Federal Funds, or Other Funds because implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the bill can be conducted with its existing appropriations.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director