



**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.*

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**Bill Number:** H. 4392    Introduced on May 13, 2021  
**Author:** Bennett  
**Subject:** Partisanship Out of Civics Act  
**Requestor:** House Education and Public Works  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Wren  
**Impact Date:** March 24, 2022 Updated for Additional Agency Response

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### **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill enacts the “Keep Partisanship Out of Civics Act” and places restrictions on public school policies and instruction for certain concepts.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Department of Education (SCDE) since any expenses to notify the public school system of the requirements of the bill can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

The bill will have no expenditure impact on the Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities, the Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, or the School for the Deaf and Blind since they currently adhere to the provisions of the bill. Also, the bill will have no expenditure impact on the Governor’s School for Agriculture at John de la Howe since the agency can manage any textbook changes within existing appropriations.

The overall expenditure impact of this bill on the local school districts is undetermined and will vary from no impact to up to \$14,400 based on responses received. SCDE surveyed the seventy-seven regular districts and the two charter districts and received responses from twenty-six districts. Twenty-three districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. One district indicates that the bill could have an expenditure impact to determine which state standards will not be allowed to be taught. However, this district could not quantify the cost. The remaining two responding districts indicate that the bill could increase district expenses by a range of \$5,000 to \$14,400 for training costs to ensure teachers and administrators understand the current laws.

*This impact statement has been updated to include responses from SCDE, the School for the Deaf and Blind, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the Governor’s School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, and the local school districts.*

## Explanation of Fiscal Impact

**Updated for Additional Agency Response on March 24, 2022**

**Introduced on May 13, 2021**

### **State Expenditure**

This bill prohibits a teacher of history, civics, U.S. government and politics, social studies, or similar subject areas from being compelled by a policy of a state agency, school district, or school administration to discuss current events or widely debated and currently controversial issues of public policy or social affairs. Also, in regards to the aforementioned courses, no school may require, make part of such course, or award course grading or credit to the following:

- Student work for, affiliation with, or service learning in association with, an organization engaged in lobbying for legislation at the local, state, or federal level, or in social or public policy advocacy; or
- Lobbying for legislation at the local, state, or federal level, or a practicum, or like activity, involving social or public policy advocacy.

Private funding may not be accepted by state agencies or school districts for curriculum development, purchase or choice of curricular materials, teacher training, professional development, or continuing teacher education pertaining to the courses mentioned above. The bill also places other restrictions on policies and instruction for certain concepts.

**State Department of Education.** SCDE indicates that any expenses to notify the public school system of the requirements of the bill can be accomplished within existing appropriations. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on SCDE. *This section of the impact statement has been updated to include a response from the agency.*

**State Agency Schools.** The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and the School for the Deaf and Blind indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact since they currently adhere to the provisions of the bill. The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe indicates that any expenses for necessary textbook changes can be managed within existing appropriations. *This section of the impact statement has been updated to include a response from the School for the Deaf and Blind, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, and the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe.*

### **State Revenue**

N/A

### **Local Expenditure**

SCDE surveyed the seventy-seven regular districts and the two charter districts and received responses from twenty-six districts. Twenty-three of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have no expenditure impact. One district indicates that the bill could have an expenditure to determine which state standards will not be allowed to be taught. However, this district could not quantify the cost. The remaining two responding districts indicate that the bill could increase district expenses by a range of \$5,000 to \$14,400 for training costs to ensure teachers and

administrators understand the current laws. Therefore, the overall expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts is undetermined and will vary by district. *This section of the impact statement has been updated to include a response from the local school districts.*

**Local Revenue**

N/A

**Introduced on May 13, 2021**

**State Expenditure**

This bill prohibits a teacher of history, civics, U.S. government and politics, social studies, or similar subject areas from being compelled by a policy of a state agency, school district, or school administration to discuss current events or widely debated and currently controversial issues of public policy or social affairs. Also, in regards to the aforementioned courses, no school may require, make part of such course, or award course grading or credit to the following:

- Student work for, affiliation with, or service learning in association with, an organization engaged in lobbying for legislation at the local, state, or federal level, or in social or public policy advocacy; or
- Lobbying for legislation at the local, state, or federal level, or a practicum, or like activity, involving social or public policy advocacy.

Private funding may not be accepted by state agencies or school districts for curriculum development, purchase or choice of curricular materials, teacher training, professional development, or continuing teacher education pertaining to the courses mentioned above. The bill also places other restrictions on policies and instruction for certain concepts.

**State Department of Education.** While we do not anticipate that this bill will have an expenditure impact on SCDE, the impact is pending, contingent upon a response.

**State Agency Schools.** The Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities indicates that they the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency since it currently adheres to the provisions of the bill. The Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics indicates that the bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency since it does not require its teachers to teach the courses referenced in the bill. The expenditure impact of this bill on the Governor’s School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, and the School for the Deaf and Blind is pending, contingent upon a response from the agencies.

**State Revenue**

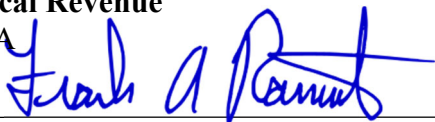
N/A

**Local Expenditure**

The expenditure impact of this bill on the seventy-seven regular school districts and the two charter districts is pending, contingent upon a response.

**Local Revenue**

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director